



**SOCIAL WELFARE AND NUTRITIOUS  
MEAL PROGRAMME DEPARTMENT,  
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI. 600 009.**

**Letter No19869/ NMP.1/2012-4Dated : 18.04.2012**

From  
Thiru.Ashok Dongre, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

To  
Thiru.Gaya Prasad,  
Director (MDM)  
Ministry of Human Resource Development,  
Department of School Education and Literacy,  
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi – 110 001 (we)

Sir

Sub National Programme for Mid Day Meal Scheme – Project  
Approval Board – Annual Work Plan and Budget for  
2012-2013 Proposals submitted – Reg.

Ref Your Letter No.-1/2011-MDM 2-1 Dated : 12.12.2011,  
Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of  
School Education and Literacy Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi

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I am directed to enclose herewith the Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2012-2013 relating to Mid Day Meal Scheme in the prescribed format, along with a write up in respect of this State. I have also sent the report through e-mail. I request that the Central Assistance claimed in the above proposal, with regard to free foodgrains, cost of foodgrains. Transport cost, Cooking Cost, Kitchen Devices and Construction of Kitchen cum Stores etc., under National Programme for Mid Day Meal Scheme may kindly be sanctioned in full.

Yours faithfully

for Principal Secretary to Government

**Copy to**  
The Director of Social Welfare  
Chennai – 2.



**National Programme  
of  
Mid Day Meal in Schools  
(MDMS)  
Annual Work Plan & Budget  
2012-13**

**Department of Social Welfare & NMP  
Government of Tamil Nadu**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE & NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME**

**NP-MDMS**

**ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET 2012-13**

***I. INTRODUCTION***

***1.1 BRIEF HISTROY***

Children who are the future human resources play a very vital role in nation building. It is therefore, the first and foremost responsibility to bestow keen attention in bringing them up, as good citizens. In order to develop the children into healthy, literate and creative human beings, the foremost duty is to protect them from childhood hunger, and attract them towards academics. Nutritious Meal Programme aims to motivate children from economically disadvantaged families to pursue education and act as a potent incentive for increasing enrolment, retention and reducing dropouts.

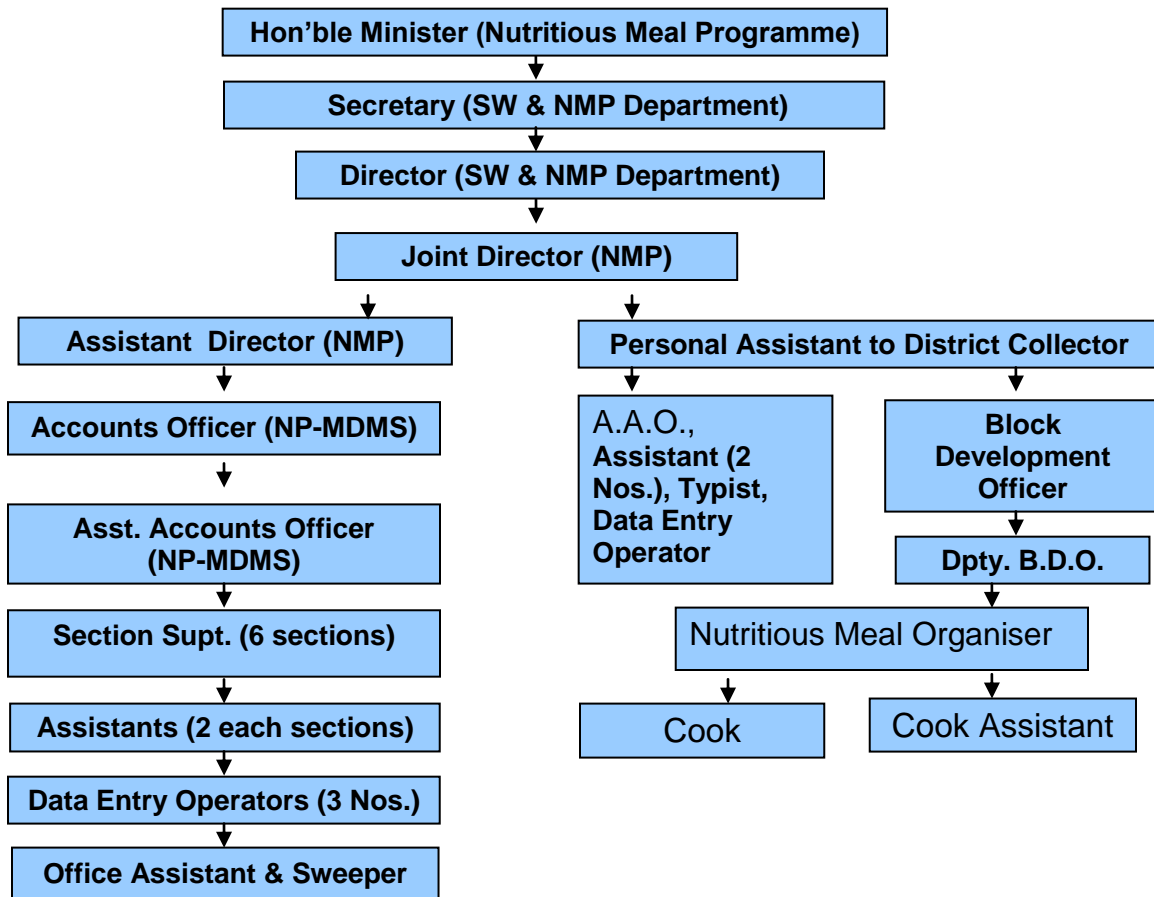
Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state in implementing the massive programme of providing Nutritious Mid Day Meal to several lakhs of school children. The Mid Day Meal Programme was introduced in 1925 for the disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation and in the year 1956, the programme was introduced in schools. On 1<sup>st</sup> July 1982, the Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme was introduced and initially implemented in Child Welfare Centres for pre-school Children in the age group of 2 to 5 years and to the primary school children in the age group of 5 to 9 years in rural areas. The programme was subsequently extended to Nutritious Meal Centres in urban areas from 15<sup>th</sup> September 1982 and later extended to school students of the age group of 10 to 15 years from September 1984. The Children in the age group of 2 to 5 years and the students in 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> standard receive nutritious meal throughout the year (365 days) and those in standard 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> receive

the meal on all school working days (220 days approximately). The Nutritious Mid Day Meal is freshly cooked and served hot to all willing children in the school premises itself, where they are studying. The scheme is successfully implemented throughout Tamil Nadu, with the assistance of Government of India under the National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools, under the fund sharing pattern of 75: 25 basis.

The foremost objectives of the scheme are:

- Eradicating extensive poverty and hunger among children particularly economically disadvantaged so as to improve their nutritional and health status.
- Reducing the child mortality, morbidity and mal-nutrition.
- Achieving universal primary education, motivation for further education and to act as a potent incentive for increasing the enrolment, retention and reducing dropouts.
- Combating all diseases including those resulting due to deficiencies.
- Reduce the gender gap in education.
- Enhances social values and foster equity, thus eroding caste prejudices and class inequality.
- By providing Mid Day Meals to the children especially in rural areas, in order to motivate them to attend the School regularly, and it will also reduced the “Child Labour” in Tamil Nadu.

## 1.2 Management Structure



## 1.3 Process of Plan Formulation

The process of plan formulation is repetitive and reiterative, identifying alternative plans that achieve a set of planning objectives and allow these plans to be modified as more and varied information becomes available. Such process provides an opportunity to refine and sharpen the planning focus.

In Tamil Nadu the process begins from the grass roots i.e., the schools / Centres. Class wise, School wise number of children opted to take midday meals, number of children actually fed, food grains requirements etc., are calculated and furnished by the centres. The School Education department updates the data regarding school enrolment, drop-out rates etc., annually during September. The data provided by the centres / schools and the education department forms the basis for the planning process. A team of Block Staff visit each school centre during September of every year and assess the school enrolment as well as Mid Day Meal Beneficiaries. Efforts are made by the Government of Tamil Nadu to plug loopholes in the implementation process and also introduce changes and innovations suiting the current needs and requirements. The entire planning process is based on the bottom up approach with needs and requirements received from the Centres to Districts and then to the State.

Any changes or modifications to any specific component or part is always carried out after comprehensive discussions involving various experts, stake holders etc., on the pros and cons of essentiality of the modifications for the effective implementation of the programme.

**2) Description and assessment of the programme implemented in the current year (2011-2012) and proposal for next year (2012-2013) with reference to :**

**2.1 Regularity and wholesomeness of mid day meals served to children; reasons for programme interruptions, if any and planning to minimize them.**

Hot cooked, wholesome food is being served weekdays as per details given below :

<b>Day</b>	<b>Menu</b>
Monday	White Rice, Vegetable Sambar with one boiled egg (one banana for those who do not eat egg)
Tuesday	White Rice, Vegetable Sambar with one boiled egg (one banana for those who do not eat egg) and 20 gms of boiled green gram or Bengal gram (alternatively)
Wednesday	White Rice, Vegetable Sambar with one boiled egg (one banana for those who do not eat egg)
Thursday	White Rice, Vegetable Sambar with one boiled egg (one banana for those who do not eat egg)
Friday	White Rice, Vegetable Sambar with one boiled egg (one banana for those who do not eat egg) and 20 gms of boiled potato

## Children having Mid Day Meal in School



Food grains (Rice, dhal and pulses) are utilized at 100 gms rice, 15 gms dhal, vegetables at 50 gms, Oil 3 gms and also condiments per day per child in Mid Day Meal for Primary Students (I to V std.) and 150 gms rice, 15 gms dhal, vegetables at 60 gms, Oil 3 gms and also condiments per day per child in Mid Day Meal for the Upper Primary students. This hot cooked meal contains on an average 540.63 calories and 17.48 gms of protein for Primary children and 721.19 calories and 21 gms of protein for Upper Primary (VI to VIII std.,) students. Locally available and acceptable vegetables, besides the prescribed ingredients in the prescribed amount is also included in the menu everyday. Besides the above, a boiled egg is provided everyday for 5 days in a week for students from I to VIII std., and for 3 days for children of 2-5 years of age. Bengal gram or Green gram and potato are also provided on specific days. Non egg eating children are supplied bananas free of cost during the mid day meals. Adding of egg and Bengal Gram and Green Gram, each Primary School Child gets about 553.30 calories and Upper Primary School Student gets about 733.86 calories.



All willing students in the age group of 5 to 15 years are provided hot cooked food for approximately 220 days. No discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, or economic status is made in the centres.

The State initially provides funds in the state budget itself for the implementation of the scheme.

Regular inspections and intensive checking is done in each school by officers of various departments in the Districts. Besides inspections, the programme is also monitored through the State Level Steering-cum Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary to Government and similar committees constituted at District / Block / School levels. Mothers groups, VECs, PTAs and also local bodies monitor the regularity and quality of mid day meals served to children, the cleanliness in cooking and serving, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel etc. All the above aspects and also the various remedial steps taken on the suggestions and corrections pointed out at regular intervals has ensured that no interruption in the implementation of the programme occur. Every willing student is being provided with wholesome, hot cooked mid day meals on all school working days without any interruption.

About 4185344 Students are covered under the feeding programme, out of which 22271 students, are provided with banana instead of eggs.

## **2.2 Coverage of Children of NCLP schools as per upper primary norms. NCLP schools primary schools but eligible for benefit as per upper primary norm.**

In 17 districts NCLP schools are functioning. 12871 Children are benefited under the programme. The NCLP Children have been provided with 150 gms of rice, 15 gms of dhal, 60 gms of vegetables, eggs, black gram or bengal gram and potatoes are also provided in some districts. However, steps are being taken to provide eggs, pulses and potatoes to all NCLP children in all the remaining districts also.

### NCLP Children enjoying Mid Day Meal



### **2.3 Food grains management, including adequacy of allocation, timeliness of lifting, transportation and distribution, and suitability of stage at different levels. Challenges faced and plan to overcome them.**

The requirement of rice is calculated at the end of the year, based on the feeding strength of the previous year, including buffer stock for 45 days. This indented quantity is communicated to Government of India. After the allocation by Government of India, the distribution to Districts, including Chennai Corporation, is made on quarterly basis by the Department and the same is also sent to the Food Corporation of India and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation.

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation lifts the rice allocated and supplies rice through their Regional centres as per their indents. The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation also supplies the indented quantity of dhal, oil, green gram or Bengal gram and double fortified salt to the centres directly every month. In Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is solely responsible

for transportation of food grains to the centres and no private external agency is engaged. The rice allocated by Government of India, is lifted by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation from Food Corporation of India and supplied to Noon Meal Centres directly between 10<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> of every month.

To ensure the timely supply of food grains to the centres, a route chart for each day of supply would be sent to the Block Development Officer for all the centres in the concerned block. In order to ensure timely supply of the food grains to the centres, the officials of the Revenue and Civil Supplies department would carry out checks in the movement, quality and accuracy in quantity. Since the entire process of liftment of rice from Food Corporation of India and transportation of food grains is carried out by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, there is timely, and prompt supply of intended food grains to the centres.

The bulk storage of food grains is made only at the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation level. No separate godown is available at the Block or School level. However, the kitchen-cum-stores constructed in schools are designed for safe storage of food grains, storage bins / vessels. The eggs supplied to children are procured by the Districts Collectors through open tender. Vegetables, firewood / fuel and condiments are purchased directly by the Nutritious Meal Organizers locally. Rs.0.72 paise per day per child for primary level and Rs.0.80 paise per day per child for upper primary level is provided by the state. The required funds are provided in the state regular budget. The funds are released to the centres through proper channel and credited to the savings bank account opened and maintained by the Nutritious Meal Organizers exclusively for this purpose.

**2.4 System for payment of cost of food grains to FCI. Status of pending bills of FCI of the previous year.**

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation immediately after liftment of rice from Food Corporation of India send the bills to the respective Districts and to the Director of Social Welfare, in respect of Chennai Corporation. The bills are submitted by the Food Corporation of India once in a quarter in some districts and once in a month in some districts. However, as soon as the bills are received, the Districts Collectors make payments from out of the budgetary provisions made for the scheme by presenting bills to the treasury. In respect of Chennai Corporation payment is made by Director of Social Welfare, Chennai-600 002.

A sum of Rs. 6582.139 lakhs has been released by Government Of India for 2011-12 towards the cost of rice.

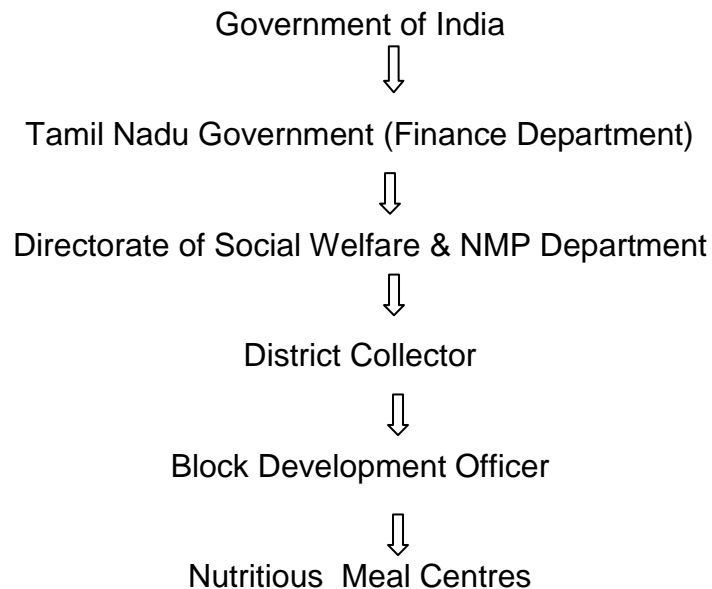
**2.5 System for release of funds provided under Mid Day Meals (Central and State). Please indicate the dates when the fund was released to state Authority / Directorate / District / Block / Gram Panchayat and finally to the Cooking Agency / School.**

In order to ensure timely and uninterrupted supply of Mid Day Meals to children, the Government of Tamil Nadu is providing sufficient funds in the state budget and distribute the same down to the nutritious meal centres well in advance without even waiting for central assistance.

Adequate allocation of funds are provided in the State Budget. The Director of Social Welfare then releases the required funds to the District Collectors by way of advance grants every quarter. These funds are also released to the Block Development Officers as advance grant who in turn releases the same to every centre as advance through ECS.

These funds are also released every month and credited into the Saving Bank account of the Nutritious Meal Centres exclusively for the propose. Expenditure on fuel, vegetables and condiments are meted out by the Nutritious Meal Organiser from the funds released to the centres. Nutritious Meal Organizers draw money required for one week in advance to incur the above expenditure.

### **Fund flow Mechanism**



Transportation cost for lifting of food grains is paid to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation directly by the Director of Social Welfare. The MME funds sanctioned for various sub-components of expenditure is expended by the District Collectors and the Block Development Officers.

Funds release:

Sl. No.	Component	Date of receiving funds from GOI by State Government	Date of release of fund from State Government to Department of Social Welfare	Release of funds by Director of Social Welfare to Districts
I.	<b><u>Adhoc grant</u></b>			
1)	Cost of food grain	24.05.2011 (By e – transfer)	14.06.2011 (for all the 4 quarters)	25.05.2011 (for all the 4 quarters)
2)	Cooking cost			
3)	Honorarium to Cook-cum Helper			
4)	Transportation Assistance			
II.	Balance of 1 <sup>st</sup> Installment	18.07.2011 (By e – transfer)	Amount adjusted against the release in the State Budget.	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Installment	29.12.2011		
III.	Final Installment	25.01.2012		

Before receiving the adhoc installment from Government of India, State Government allocates the amount for all the components in the State budget itself. On receipt of central share of the grant, the same is adjusted for all the components.

Funds were adjusted later, on receiving central share for all the above components.

**2.7 System and mode of payment of honorarium to Cook-cum-Helper and implementing agencies viz., NGOs / SHGs / Trust / Centres Kitchen etc.,**

As the funds are provided well in advance to the Districts, the payment of Honorarium to the Cook-cum Helpers is made by the Block Development Officer (at the Block Panchayat level) to the respective SB account of the employee through Electronic Clearing system (ECS) before 5<sup>th</sup> of the succeeding month. There is no delay due to paucity of funds.

**2.8 System for procuring cooking ingredients (Pulses, Vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, oil and fuel etc.). Commodities which are centrally purchased and supplied to school or locally purchased at school level.**

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation which is the State owned agency, is the agency to procure and supply food commodities like rice, dhal, oil, double fortified salt, Black gram and Green gram dhal required for the Nutritious Meal Centres. These commodities are supplied directly to the centres by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. The commodities such as vegetables, condiments and fuel are purchased locally by the nutritious meal organizers with the advance grant already released to them under the head “Feeding Charges”.

**2.9 System for cooking, serving and supervising mid day meals in the schools and measures taken to prevent any untoward happening.**

The cooks appointed by the State Government are cooking the mid day meals in the centres. They are assisted by cook-assistant. If the number of beneficiaries exceeds 500 then one additional cook and cook-assistant is also provided to the Nutritious Meal Centres. The nutritious meal organizer supervises the cooking closely. Headmaster, Teachers in schools also supervise the serving of mid day meals to the students. Besides this, district level officials also inspect centres at regular intervals and supervise cooking and serving of mid day meals. Specific targets have been fixed for the Collectors and his officials for the purpose.

Further, district level and village level committees have been constituted to monitor the programme.

## **2.10. Procedure and status of kitchen-cum-store.**

The Government of India had released funds for the construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores at the rate of Rs.60,000/- per unit for the years 2006-2007 to 2008-2009. During 2009-2010 the unit cost of Kitchen-cum-Stores was fixed at Rs.2.00 lakhs to Rs.3.25 lakhs based on the plinth area norm and state schedule of rates and the cost of construction would be shared between the centre and the state on 75:25 basis.

On receipt of Government Orders for fund for construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores, the same would be redistributed to the Districts as per their requirements and the Block Technical Wing would prepare the estimate as per current schedule of rates. After technical and administrative sanction, tenders will be floated as per the Tender Transparency Act and Rules by the Block Development Officer (Block Panchayat) and then after finalization, work order would be issued. The progress of work would be supervised by the Block Development Officer and monitored by the technical wing during the progress of work.

The progress in the pending works in the construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores has been speeded up. Many Kitchen-cum-Stores sanctioned with Rs.60,000/- as unit cost and which were pending have been completed by dovetailing funds from other sources at the Block level.

The District Collectors are closely monitoring the construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores at the district level in order to complete the pending works. Out of the 14477 kitchen-cum-stores sanctioned so far, 4269 have been completed, 7453 works are in progress and construction for 3184 Kitchen-cum-Stores are yet to start. The construction work of these centres would also be taken up soon.



## Types of Kitchen-cum-Store constructed



### **2.11. Procedure of procurement of kitchen devices from (i) funds released under the Mid Day Meal Programme (ii) other sources.**

The requirements of the kitchen devices for storage, serving etc., in the Mid Day Meal Centres based on the feeding strength, is ascertained, and then proposal is sent to Government of India and the same is sanctioned after PAB approval.

The state government also allocates funds for procurement of plates and tumblers to the children.

Now, for the year 2012-13, for 9232 centres Rs. 461.600 lakhs has been proposed for sanction for the procurement of kitchen devices.

### **2.12 Capacity Building and training conducted for different categories of persons involved in the Mid Day Meal Programme.**

Various types of trainings have been organized for the different categories of persons involved in Mid Day Meal programme. Of which currently the following trainings are underway.

#### ***(i) 6 Days Training to Nutritious Meal Organisers and Cooks of Chennai District:***

The training which was started by the Indian Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Taramani, Chennai, for the Nutritious Meal Organizers and Cooks for Chennai District during the year 2010-2011, was continued covering totally 963 Organisers and Cooks. This training of 6 days a week duration, covered topics on personal hygiene for food handlers, basic hygiene like cleaning the kitchen and equipments, culinary terms, knife skills, washing of vegetables and fruits, storage of food, food preparation and presentation, health and safety, basic first aid, kitchen management etc. Rs.200/- per day was provided to each person and a certificate on completion of training are being issued.

**Training being conducted by IIMCT & AN, Taramani for  
Nutritious Meal Organisers**



**Trainees engrossed in cooking in the Training Centre**



## 2. Training to 75123 Nutritious Meal Organisers and cooks:

This training is modeled on cluster training pattern, wherein, 3 steps of trainings have been planned.

Step I	Training of Master Trainers
Step II	Training of Trainers (TOT)
Step III	Training to organizers and cooks by the TOTs at the Block level, in batches of 35 each, in clusters of 4 or 5 at a time. Local Resource persons would also be involved.

### **Objectives of this massive training is :-**

- i) To reorient the Organisers & Cooks on nutrition, health, personal and environmental hygiene, sanitation, food preservation & preparation, food safety, storage, food poisoning, maintenance of registers, interpersonal relationship, teamwork etc.
- ii) To create awareness among the workers about the necessity to involve community groups in improving enrollment, reducing dropouts and increasing Mid Day Meal beneficiaries.
- iii) To improve skill & efficiency of the Organisers & Cooks in managing the nutritious meal centres.

### **Stage 1 : Orientation to Master Trainers**

12 experts in the field of Nutrition, Social Work, Health, Education, Training etc., were oriented on the scheme. The role of Nutritious Meal Organisers & Cooks and also about the need for Training of Trainers (TOT). The methodology to be adopted, the various topics for the training etc., were also briefed to the cluster training.

## **Stage 2 : Training of Trainers (TOT)**

i) 192 Noon Meal Organisers were selected (6 per District) and grouped into 5 batches. They are the trainers selected to conduct training for the nutritious meal organizers and cooks in the blocks in a phased manner.

ii) Two days residential training to the TOTs was conducted at Trichy on 17th & 18th December 2011, as per the schedule drawn up.

iii) Training was facilitated by PIONEER TRAD, an NGO, specialised in operational research, training & development.

iv) Resource persons from IIT Madras, Medical Officers, Nutritionist, Experts from Indian Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Chennai and P.A. (NMP)s, conducted training on various subjects.

A school was chosen as venue, where in 5 class rooms were utilized to accommodate the 5 batches.

The trainees were divided into 5 batches. Training module was used in the training and training sessions were conducted. The training was supervised by the Director of Social Welfare, Joint Director (NMP) and Assistant Director (NMP), besides the experts the TOT training was personally supervised by the Director of Social Welfare on both days. The Director, interacted with the trainees and got feed back on the conduct of the training. She also touched upon the importance of nutritious, hygienic cooking methods, the care in serving of cooked meal to children etc. Further she also stressed upon the roles and responsibilities of the Noon Meal staff and the need to create more awareness among the students, social audit groups such as PTA, VECs and PRIs on the nutrients contents available in the Mid Day Meal and its positive impact on the



health and development of the children. All P.A. (NMP)s, who are managing the scheme at the district level, were also present. They are closely observed the training conducted so that the experience would enable them to organize, conduct and monitor the block level trainings to be conducted by the TOTs at a later date.

Tmt. B. Jothi Nirmala I.A.S., Director of Social Welfare addresses the participants during the training session



Tmt. B. Jothi Nirmla I.A.S., Director of Social Welfare, addresses the participants of the training programme for 2 days to the TOTs.





**Training of Trainers (TOT) session in progress conducted in Trichy**



**Nutritionist facilitating the training**





## Teaching through games



### **Stage 3 :     *Block Level Training to Noon Meal Organisers & Cooks***

- ❖ 37880 Nutritious Meal Organisers & 37243 Cooks would be trained by the TOTs, in batches of 35 each.

So far, step I and II have been completed.

The Block level training by the TOTs is to be conducted from March 2011 in a phased manner, wherein, all the remaining 74931 Organisers and Cooks would be trained.

Funds have been provided under MME for the training programme.

### **2.13. Management Information System at School, Village / Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State Level and its details.**

The proper implementation of the Mid Day Meal programme needs to be scientifically monitored from the grass-root level and also various other levels, in terms of strength of beneficiaries, proper utilization of food grains, pulses, stock position and expenditure details every month. These details need to be updated every month. A data base system exclusively for the Mid Day Meal Scheme has to be created inter-linking these with the various centres, districts and the state.

Further, presently, the Mid Day Meal Centres are visited by various levels of Block, District and State level officials including District Collector, officials from Rural Development Department, Social Welfare, Revenue, Education, Health etc., at regular intervals. Details of inspection are recorded and steps are taken to rectify the defects / omissions at once. Wherever necessary, disciplinary action against the erring staff is also taken.

All basic informations and details has to be compiled, fed and updated into the computers at Block level regularly. For this purpose, computers with printers and computer assistants (on contract basis) have been provided to 208 blocks so far. The remaining 177 blocks are to be covered in a phased manner. Hitherto, the computer at the Block Development Office was utilized for this scheme.

### **2.14. Systems to ensure transparency, accountability and in all aspects of programme implementation, including inter alia, food grain management, ingredients procurement, cooking and serving, appointment of cooks staff, construction of kitchen-cum-stores and procurement of devices.**

To ensure transparency in the implementation process, various steps have been taken. The nutritious meal organizer maintains registers for food grains, cash book, children feeding attendance, bank pass book and other records, registers and vouchers. The Village Education Committee, the Block / District level officials, Deputy Block Development Officer (NMP), Local Fund

Audit Department Officials and other inspecting officials periodically inspect these records during their visit. Ingredients are procured locally by the organizers under proper vouchers and these vouchers are subjected to audit.

Menu is displayed on board in every school. Besides, date of receipt of food grains, quantity of food grains received, the quantity utilized, balance on hand etc., are also displayed.

### **Food grain management.**

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation lifts the rice from the Food Corporation of India godowns as per the indents. Based on the monthly indents, pulses like toor dhal, black gram, green gram, oil, double fortified salt besides rice are supplied directly to the centres by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation.

Eggs are procured by the District Collectors through Open Tender System every month and supplied through Block Development Officers to the centres.

Funds for the purchase of vegetables, condiments, fuel etc., is provided by the government in the state regular budget itself and released to the centres at the rate of 0.70 paise (vegetables 0.32 paise, condiments 0.14 paise, fuel 0.24 paise) per child per day in the primary school level and 0.80 paise (vegetables 0.36 paise, condiments 0.17 paise, fuel 0.27 paise) per child per day for upper primary children. Nutritious meal organizers have been permitted to purchase fresh, locally available vegetables including greens every day, besides condiments and fuel, for which separate accounts are maintained. Advance grants for the purchase of vegetables, condiments and fuel are released by the Block Development Officer on quarterly basis directly through ECS and credited to the bank account of the Nutritious Meal Organisers. The organizers have been authorized to draw money from the bank for one week requirement.

### **Cooking and Serving :-**

Nutritious meal is cooked in the school centres by the cooks, assisted by cook assistants and served to the eligible and willing children in the noon. Food is being prepared and served in the school premises itself. Headmasters and teachers, besides the nutritious meal organizers, supervise the serving of food to the students. Prior to serving, food samples are taken and kept separately in the centres. Cooked food is also tasted by the organizer and one teacher before serving, thus ensuring the quality of the food prepared.

### **Appointment of Nutritious Meal Centre Staff :-**

After arriving at the number of vacancies, the Block Development Officers / Municipal Commissioners, call for applications from suitable candidates for filling up the vacancies of organizers, cooks and cook-assistant by advertising in news papers. Eligibility criteria have been fixed for these posts. Women candidates alone are eligible for these posts and should be from the nearby locality. Preference is given to widows, destitutes and deserted, besides following the mandatory communal rotation roster in appointment.

The District Collector is the appointing authority for the posts of Nutritious Meal Organisers and the Personal Assistant to the Collector is the appointing authority for cooks and cook assistants. For each Nutritious Meal Centre with beneficiaries upto 500, one Organiser, one Cook and one Cook Assistant are appointed additionally. For centres with more than 500 beneficiaries, one additional cook and one additional cook-assistant are also employed.

## **Construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores and procurement of Kitchen Devices.**

The allocated funds by Government of India are distributed to the District Collectors. The plan and estimates for the construction of Kitchen-cum-Stores are prepared by the District Rural Development Agency and thereafter administrative sanction is issued by the District Collector and the fund is then redistributed to the respective blocks as per the number of centres where kitchen-cum-stores are required. The Block Development Officer takes suitable action for construction as per the state rules and procedures in vogue.

When funds are allotted, the District Collectors call for tender for the required number of kitchen devices and supplies them to the centres.

### **2.15 Measures taken to rectify**

- a. Inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking costs.**
- b. Inter-district mismatch in utilization of food grains and cooking cost.**
- c. Delay in delivering cooking cost at school level.**

All District Collectors are instructed to place indents for rice to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, as per the requirement, including buffer stock every month. However, the mismatch in utilization of food grains occurs due to the fact that requirement of rice varies every month with reference to the number of working days in a month and number of students opted for the scheme, whereas the allocation of rice is made based on the tentative working days and tentative beneficiaries furnished in the Annual Work Plan.

Another major reason reported is that the Food Corporation of India reduces the stock on hand as reported by the District Collector, every time the supply is made. Only after deducting the balance stock available in the centre, the rice is supplied and hence there is under-liftment of food grains. There is extreme shortfall in the liftment of rice. In order to avoid this recurring problem,

the state may be permitted to lift rice from Food Corporation of India with reference to monthly requirement subject to the condition that the total liftment does not exceed the annual allocation fixed by the Government of India. This issue has already been brought to the notice of the Government of India for necessary action.

Funds for cooking cost is provided in state budget itself without waiting for the receipt of funds by Government of India. Re-allocation is made to the district from the budget provisions for the purchase of vegetables, condiments and fuel and the same is released well-in-advance on quarterly basis through ECS to the centres. Money required for the week is drawn by the Nutritious Meal Organisers for the purchase of fresh locally available vegetables, condiments and fuel. Hence, there is no chance for delay in release of funds from the State and District level down to the nutritious meal centres.

#### **2.16. Details of evaluation studies conducted by the State / UTs and summary of its findings.**

No adverse comments have been raised by the Monitoring Institutions.

#### **2.17 Brief write-up on best practices followed.**

##### **Supply of Double Fortified Salt:-**

In order to control and prevent Iron deficiency / Anaemia which is the common nutritional disorder widely prevalent among children of 2 to 15 years of age, Iodized salt was used in the preparation of meals instead of common salt under this programme. At present, Iron and Iodine enriched salt (Double Fortified Salt) is used in the Nutritious Meals in all districts.

### **Boiled eggs getting ready for distribution**



#### **Supply of Five Boiled Eggs per week:-**

Five eggs per week are provided to students availing Mid Day Meal. Eggs are procured by the District Collectors in all Districts and by the Commissioner of ICDS for Chennai District by following the procedures laid down in the Tender Transparency Act and Rules. Each egg should weigh minimum 46 gms. Eggs are supplied directly to the centres in Chennai & to the Block Development Officers office in Districts from where it is taken by the Organisers as per their requirements. 0.08 paise is paid for each egg as transportation cost to the Organisers.

99% of Children eat eggs during the Mid Day Meals.

#### **Supply of Banana in place of Egg:-**

Non egg eating children are provided one banana each day. Rs.1.25 is provided for each banana.

### **School Health Programme:-**

Health Check up Camps are conducted in schools regularly and Micro-nutrients and de-worming medicines are supplied to the children. Students are treated for minor ailments and referred to taluk and other Government hospitals for further treatment if necessary. Eye camps are also conducted and spectacles are provided to students with defective vision.

### **Supply of Black Bengal Gram / Green Gram & Potato:-**

Students are provided with 20 gms. of bengal gram or green gram on every tuesday alternatively along with Mid Day Meals. Potato is provided to students on every friday along with the Mid Day Meals.

### **Modernization of Kitchen with Gas connection:-**

The State Government provides Rs.22000/- for civil works, stoves & LPG connection to each centre. Modernization of Kitchen is done in a phased manner.

#### **Kitchen with Gas connection**





**Time Scale of Pay to Nutritious Meal employees:-**

Nutritious Meal Scheme employees are provided salary in the Special Time Scale of Pay, which is a great motivating factor for effective implementation of the programme.

Nutritious Meal Organiser	: Rs.-2500-5000 + 500 Grade pay (Special time scale of pay) at a minimum of about Rs.4840/- per month
Cook	: Rs. 1300-3000 + Rs.300 Grade pay (Special time scale of pay) at a minimum pay of about Rs. 2628/- per month.
Cook Assistant	: Rs. 950-2000 + Rs. 200 at about minimum pay of Rs.1917/- per month.

**Introduction of Special Pension:-**

Rs.700/- p.m. to Nutritious Meal Organiser, Rs.600/- p.m. to Cook & Rs.500/- p.m. to Cook Assistant is provided as special pension as retirement benefit.

**Provision of Lumpsum payment:-**

Nutritious Meal Organiser is paid Rs.50,000/- & Cook & Cook Assistant is paid Rs. 20,000/- as lumpsum amount at the time of retirement.

**Provision of Special Provident Fund:-**

Rs.10,000/- is provided as special provident fund to the Nutritious Meal employees at the time retirement.

**Promotional Opportunities to Staff:-**

Special test is conducted by Teachers Recruitment Board for qualified Nutritious Meal Organisers and they are appointed as teachers in Schools

### **General Provident Fund Scheme:-**

All categories of Nutritious Meal Centre staff are enrolled in Provident Fund Scheme. Account numbers have been allotted by the Government Data centre.

### **Appointment on Compassionate Grounds:-**

The legal heir of the Nutritious Meal employee who dies while in service is provided employment on compassionate grounds.

### **Trainings to Nutritious Meal Centre Staff:-**

- i) Training imparted to Cooks & Cook Assistants by Indian Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Taramani, Chennai.

6 days training to Cook and Cook Assistants on basic hygiene, Food preparation, presentation etc., is being conducted by Indian Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Taramani, Chennai. 963 persons of Chennai District trained so far. Rs.200/- per day is provided as stipend to the trainees.

This is the first of major training initiative to the Nutritious Meal employees.

- ii) Training to 75123 Nutritious Meal Staff. 192 TOTs trained so far. Block level training to be conducted by the TOTs in a phased manner.

### **Provision of Uniforms to Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries:-**

- Scheme introduced from the academic year 1985-86.
- 1 set of uniform was provided to each student (both boys & girls).
- 80 Industrial Women Cooperative Societies are involved in stitching of uniforms.
- 44831 Women members with poor economic background are involved in stitching the uniforms.

- For present academic year 2011-12, 2 sets of uniforms are provided to each student.
- From the next academic year, 4 sets of uniforms would be provided to each student - 2 sets in June 2012 & 2 sets in December 2012.
- The scheme has been introduced to promote enrollment, equity & improve educational status among children.
- Cloth procurement for the uniforms is entrusted with the Director of Handlooms & Textiles which are supplied through Co-optex and Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation (TNTC).
- Distribution of stitched uniforms to schools is entrusted to the Director of Elementary Education & Director of School Education (412 AEEO Divisions & 65 DEO Divisions)
- Boys of 6th to 8th std. will be provided with shirt & full pants instead of half pants.
- Girls of 6th to 8th std. will be given salwar kameez set instead of pavadai & dhavani.
- Stitching charges to the women members of the tailoring societies in accordance with present market rate has been decided by the Government.

**2.18. Instances of unhygienic food served, children falling ill, sub standard supplies, diversion/misuse of resources, social discrimination and safety measures adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidents.**

Whenever food poisoning cases are reported, the official machinery in the districts including those from health, education, local administration and even the District Collector, swing into action. Immediate medical attention is given to the children. The food samples of food/food grains are then sent for analysis to the Government Analytical laboratory. Reasons for the cause of such occurrence are enquired and necessary action taken. The nutritious meal organizers, cooks and cook-assistants are suspended if they are found negligent in their duty.

Suitable instructions have been issued to prepare the food hygienically and to keep the kitchen and its surroundings clean. The various inspections made by officials as well as the committees at the Village / Block / District levels has helped in ensuring that the food is prepared and served hygienically to the children. In view of the various steps taken, food poisoning cases has become rare.

Since the rice and other food grains are procured and supplied by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, a Government of Tamil Nadu agency, the quality is maintained. No substandard supplies are made. Due to the frequent inspection of officials, the quality of food grains supplied is also checked and misuse prevented.

#### **2.19. Extent of involvement of NGOs and Civic Body Organisations (CBOs)/PRIs in the implementation and working of the scheme.**

NGOs and civic Body Organisations (CBOs) are not involved in the implementation and monitoring of the scheme. Since this is a State run programme, the Nutritious Meal Organisers, Cooks and Cook Assistants are appointed by the Government manage the nutritious meal centres. The scheme is managed by the above personnel. However, local representatives of the PRI, are included in the village level committees to monitor the implementation of the programme.

#### **2.20. Status of School Health Programme with special focus on provision of micronutrients, vitamin A, de-worming medicine, iron and folic acid, zetic distribution of spectacles to children with refractive error and recording of height, weight etc.**

Under the School Health programme, health checkup camps are conducted for the students during which micro-nutrients and de-worming medicines are given. Anaemia and vitamin deficiency cases are also treated by

giving Ferrous Sulphate with Folic Acid tablets – IP, Vitamin B complex tablets, NFI (Prophylactic) and Vitamin-C tablets to children, in the age group of 6 – 11 years. De-worming cases are also administrated with Albendazole 400 mg. Morbidity defects identified and treated (which are common ailments) for 2011-12 (upto Dec 31.12.2011) are furnished below:-

Particulars	Primary	Middle	Higher	Hr. Sec.	Total	%
<b>Total No. of School to be covered</b>	<b>27245</b>	<b>9443</b>	<b>2843</b>	<b>3238</b>	<b>42729</b>	
<b>No. of Schools covered</b>						
Visit I	18577	7829	2682	3234	32322	75.57
Visit II	3872	1449	585	573	3479	15.15
Visit III	162	97	81	86	426	1.00
<b>Total No. of Students to be examined</b>	<b>2454815</b>	<b>2098860</b>	<b>1078716</b>	<b>3597707</b>	<b>9230098</b>	
<b>No. of Students examined</b>						
Visit I	1414184	1360110	858006	2569540	6201840	67.19
Visit II	244370	199113	161188	390074	994745	10.78
Visit III	16345	17506	18989	43992	92832	1.05
<b>No. of Students treated for minor ailments</b>						
Visit I	661274	642830	618339	933955	2856398	46.1
Visit II	91449	80117	110307	91637	373560	37.6
Visit III	4447	6044	14029	14630	39150	40.4
<b>Morbidity Pattern</b>						
a) Dental Carries	189175	171237	89540	186367	636319	8.7
b) Worm Infestation	244602	229690	137972	309442	921706	12.6
c) A.R.I.	207382.3	186830	122920	263316	780448	10.7
d) Anaemia	37941	38876	31930	59378	168125	2.3
e) Vitamin "A" Deficiency	28709	26080	13504	25426	93719	1.3
f) Scabies	14633	13100	7284	13428	48445	0.7
g) Defective Vision	3208	3713	4363	12007	23291	0.3
h) Otitis Media	0	0	0	0	0	0
i) Leprosy	308	253	192	481	1231	0
j) Defective Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0
k) Rheum. Heart Disease	305	253	192	481	1231	0
l) T.B.	2090	2877	2400	7786	15153	0.2
m) Goitre	48	111	321	576	1056	0
<b>No. of students referred to taluk hospitals or any other referral hospitals</b>	<b>8313</b>	<b>7774</b>	<b>5250</b>	<b>8950</b>	<b>30287</b>	<b>0.42</b>

For goiter control besides educating the children in the importance of consumption of iodised salt to prevent iodine deficiency level disorder including goiter, double fortified salt (DFS) is used in the preparation of Mid Day Meals in the centre, under this scheme. This aims at controlling and preventing iron and iodine deficiency and anaemia, which is the most common nutritional disorders widely prevalent among children in the age group of 2-15 years. Eye camps are also conducted under the School Health programme.

### **Spectacle distributed to student with defective vision**



Students with defective vision have been identified and spectacles have been issued to these children. Dental camps are also organized for the School Students, and children are treated for milk teeth, filling up of milk teeth and permanent teeth. Further, heart surgeries are also done to students. About 1813

heart surgeries have been performed so far on students, to rectify heart problems.

The State Health Department also conducts IEC programmes. Health education sessions are organized on hand wash, menstrual hygiene, adolescent health, control of communicable diseases and non communicable diseases, immunization etc. All thursdays are observed as “School Health Day” and all saturday are observed as “referral days”, to provide more focus on students’ health and in providing comprehensive health care services and ensure early detection, diagnosis and timely treatment.

### **Height & Weight recording by Health Staff**



**LIST OF MEDICINES SUPPLIED UNDER SCHOOL CHILDREN HEALTH  
CAMP PROGRAMME**

S.No	Name of the drug
1	Albendazole 400mg
2	Tab FST + Folic acid
3	Tab Paracetamol
4	ORS Pocket 27.9 gms
5	Gentamycine Eye drops
6	GBHC (Lotion)
7	Cetrimide cream
8	Absorbant cotton
9	Bandage cloth
10	Anti histamine –CPM
11	Anti emetic – Domperidone Metroclpromide
12	Anti Spasmodic – Dicyclomine HCL

**2.21. Present monitoring structure at various levels. Strategy for establishment of monitoring cell at various levels viz. Block, District and State level by Block, District and State level for effective monitoring of the scheme.**

The State Government has ordered that various District Level officials should inspect nutritious meal centres every month and targets have been fixed for each level officer. The District Collector, P.A. to Collector (NMP), Commissioner Chennai Corporation, Commissioners of Municipalities, District Project Officer ICDS, Block Development Officer, Assistant Education Officer, Chennai Corporation, other Corporation Commissioners and Child Development Project Officer are involved in regular monitoring of the implementation of the programme. The Districts Collectors conduct review meetings to review the functioning of the scheme based on the observation of the inspecting officials.



Remedial measures and necessary actions are taken to rectify the defects and strengthening the implementation process.

District level steering cum monitoring committees have been constituted, besides Block and Village committees, Parents Teacher Association, Village Education committees are also involved. Regarding the constitution of SMCs instructions have been given to constitute the SMCs at the earliest and convene meetings every month.

At the State level, the progress of implementation and the performance of the District level implementing officers, i.e., Personal Assistant (NMPs) are reviewed every month by the Director of Social Welfare.

The State level Steering cum Monitoring Committee, also reviews the progress of the scheme, and important decision are being taken to plug loopholes in the implementation process and strengthen the scheme.

Further, Hon'ble Minister for Noon Meal Programme, Secretary Social Welfare & NMP Department also review the implementation of the Mid Day Meal scheme at regular intervals. Review meeting to watch the progress of expenditure is also being conducted by the Planning Development Department with the officials of the Secretariat and Directorate of Social Welfare.

Nutritious Meal centres are also subjected to yearly audit by the Local Fund Audit Department to monitor the expenditure at the centre level. Pre-Audit by Treasuries and Accounts Department at the Block / District / State levels, and random audit by the Accountant General, at State, District and Block levels are the other agencies involving in monitoring the scheme.

## **Visit of 3<sup>rd</sup> Review Mission :**

Date of visit of Review Mission : 22nd Nov to 29th Nov 2011.

Districts visited : Vellore, Krishnagiri & Namakkal.

### **Details of Visit :**

Vellore : 14 Schools in 9 Blocks, TNCSC Godown & 2 PHC were inspected.

Meeting with District Collector & Other District Officials involved in MDMS was held in the District Collectorate. The details of the visit, and areas for improvement were also discussed during the meeting.

Krishnagiri : 7 Schools in 3 Blocks, TNCSC Godown were inspected.

Meeting with District Collector & Other District Officials involved in MDMS was held.

Namakkal : 5 Schools in 3 Blocks inspected.

Meeting with District Collector & Other District Officials involved in MDMS was held.

### **Review Mission Team Leader interacting with the Nutritious Meal Beneficiaries**



### **Review Mission Team verifying registers maintained by Organiser**



### **General Observation made by the Review Mission:**

Mission appreciated the meticulous maintenance of registers in the centres. The uninterrupted & timely supply of foodgrains to Nutritious Meal centres through the NCSC was commended. Systematic & frequent inspections of officials was appreciated.

**2.22. Steps taken to strengthen the Monitoring Mechanism, the Block, District and State level and Status of constitution of SMC at these levels. Status of formation of on School Management Committee at Villages / School / Cooking agency level in the light of Right to Information Act 2009.**

Monitoring Committees have been constituted at the Village, Block, District and State level to monitor the supply of cooked mid day meal to the children, quality of foodgrains supplied, and the functioning of the nutritious meal

centres. Also, the observations and shortcomings reported by the inspecting officials are also noted and suitable actions are taken. Many issues noticed and pointed out are addressed then and there in the district and also at the state level.

**2.23. Arrangement for official inspections to Mid Day Meal centres and percentage of schools inspected and summary of findings and remedial measures.**

In order to ensure that all Nutritious Meal Centres are inspected and their functioning monitored, various levels of officials have been instructed to inspect centres and conduct surprise checks at the time of feeding on the quality and quantity of food cooked and served, on the number of children fed, the stock on hand, registers maintained etc. Targets have been fixed for each official. The following are the details of target fixed among the officials.

Designation of Official	No.of Centres
District Collector	10 Centres
PA to Collector (NMP),	20 Centres
Chennai Corporation Commissioner	10 Centres
Commissioner of Municipalities	20 Centres
District Project Officer, ICDS	30 Centres
Block Development Officer	40 Centres
Assistant Educational Officer, Chennai Corporation	10 Centres
Other Corporation Commissioners	10 Centres
Child Development Project Officer	60 Centres

**2.24. Feedback / Comments in respect of report of monitoring institutions designated for your State / UT., to noon for implementation of Mid Day Meal and action taken them.**

The monitoring institution which has visited a few Districts has not passed any adverse comments about the implementation of Mid Day Meal in centres. However, the reports of the monitoring institution are sent to the concerned Districts and rectification reports are received. General instructions have also been sent to District Collectors, to create more awareness among various groups like PTA / VEC / SMC / Mother's group and students about the importance, quality and positive impact of Mid Day Meal on the children's health and the necessity to avail the Mid Day Meals served in schools.

**2.25 . Grievance Redressal Mechanism if any used by the State / UTs. Details of complaints received, nature of complaints, and time schedule for disposal of complaints.**

All Block Development Offices are provided with complaint boxes for grievance redressal. Necessary instructions have also been issued to all Block Development Offices to ensure that all school are provided with complaint boxes and all complaints thus received are registered and action taken. Complaint boxes are also provided in all the District Collectors offices and also at the Directorate of Social Welfare in Chennai.

Further Monday's have been designated as "grievance day" by District Collectors for receiving grievance petitions from public. Immediate action is taken on any petition received regarding Mid Day Meal on such days.

**2.26 Media campaign if any.**

No media campaign has been conducted regarding Mid Day Meal. However, a short documentary film is to be produced on the Mid Day Meal Scheme, which would be screened in all schools, for students, during PTA, VEC

& SMC meetings, during village functions, etc. Also as part of the IEC campaign, it has been instructed to prepare and print handouts / pamphlets, highlighting the various aspects of Mid Day Meal scheme, its components, quality of foodgrains, vegetables and other ingredients utilized, the nutrient contents available in the food supplied and its positive impact on the students' health and development. All the Personal Assistants to Collectors for Nutrition Meal Programme have been instructed to take immediate action on the above lines.

### **Exhibition of Nutritious Meal Programme in All India Industrial Tourist and Trade Fair, Chennai:-**

The State Government has organized the All India Trade Fair at Island grounds, Chennai from December 2011 till April 2012, wherein the Department of Social Welfare has put up a pavilion showcasing the various schemes implemented by the Department. The salient features of the Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme have been exhibited. The number of beneficiaries, the quantity of food grains utilized for different age groups of children, the nutrient contents in eggs, vegetables, nutrient requirements for different age groups etc., have been depicted in the exhibition through charts, digital boards, carved vegetables, photographs etc. Samples of various foodgrains, eggs, vegetables, salt etc. have been displayed. Many curious questions are put forth by the public regarding the nutrient contents in the food served in the school nutritious meal centres.



**Visitors to the exhibition discuss the details given in the exhibit**



**Foodgrains, Vegetable, Eggs & Salt utilized in Mid Day Meal displayed**



## **2.27 Overall assessment of the manner in which implementation of the programme is contributing to the programme objectives and an analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the programme implementation.**

With good infrastructure facilities, active, dedicated and effective administrative setup and also strict and effective monitoring system, the Mid Day Meal scheme is implemented in a satisfactory manner in entire Tamil Nadu. However, the gaps in the implementation would be filled up once an effective mechanism in MIS is established. Action has already been taken in this regard.

### **Suggestions**

Rice is being allotted by the Food Corporation of India and it is lifted from Food Corporation of India godowns and supplied directly to the Nutritious Meal Centre by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. As already pointed out there is difficulty in getting the required quantity of food grains because of the deductions made from the indents submitted every month by the centres. Everytime the foodgrains are supplied (either monthly or quarterly) closing balance in the Mid Day Meal centres are deducted, resulting in severe mismatch in intend and actual supply of rice by Food Corporation of India and short fall in foodgrains in the centre is reported. It is therefore suggested that the Food Corporation of India supplies rice in full quantity as per the indents (monthly or quarterly as the case may be) without reducing the quantity of closing balance every time it is lifted. This would ensure that adequate stock of foodgrains is available in the centres including 45 days buffer stock.

Due to the utilization of firewood in most of the centres, the cooks face a lot of hassles and problems in terms of availability of fuel, particularly during rainy season, and maintenance of hygiene and of cleanliness etc. The usage of firewood, which produces smoke, causes health problems to the cooks and cook



assistants. Due to these factors, it is necessary that all the kitchens are modernized with gas connections earliest possible. Hence it is suggested that separate funds may be allotted, for providing gas connections and monthly gas refills, after obtaining the requirements from the states.

Government of India has earmarked 1.8% for expenditure under Management, Monitoring and Evaluation component, which is not sufficient. Hence this may be raised to 3%, so that, more activities can be planned and executed.

Sd./- B. Jothi Nirmala,  
Director of Social Welfare

for Director of Social Welfare

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