



National Programme
of
Mid Day Meal in Schools

[MDMS]



Annual Work Plan And Budget

2014-15

KERALA

MID DAY MEAL PROGRAMME

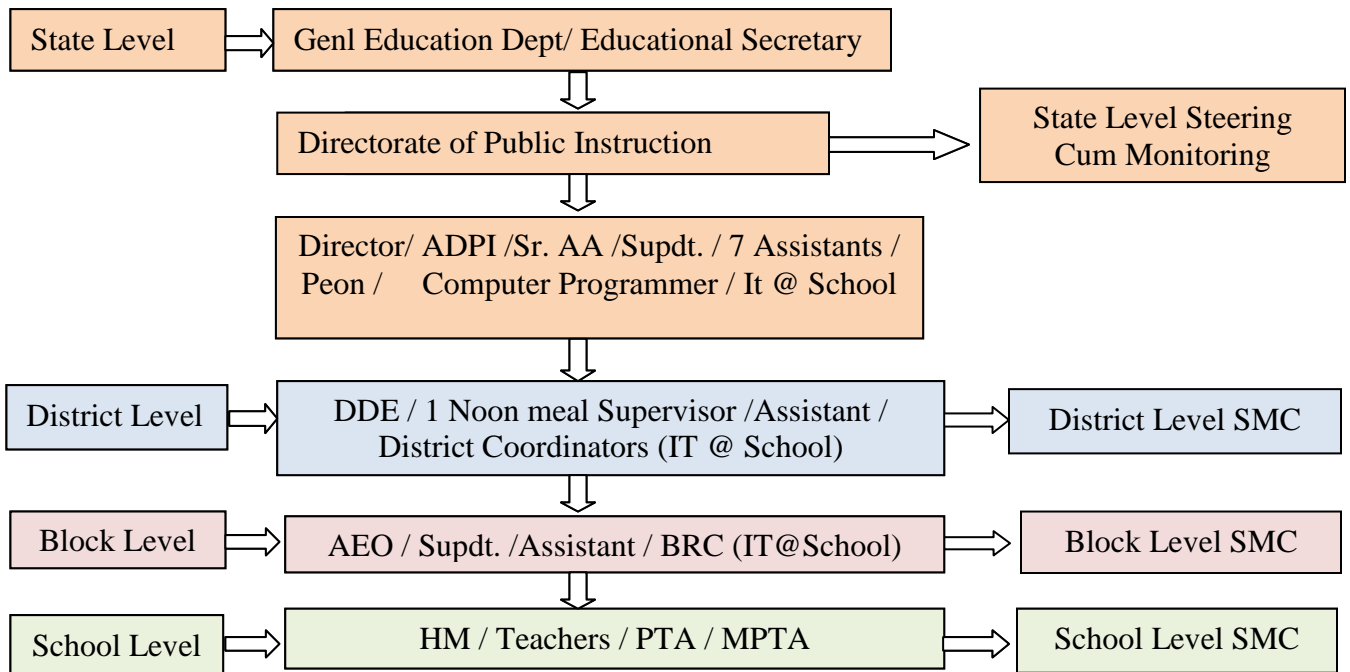
1. Introduction

1.1 The Mid Day Meal Scheme was first introduced in the state of Kerala in 1984 in the LP Schools functioning in 222 Villages, having Fishermen as majority. During 1985 the scheme was extended to all LP schools (Std. I to IV). The scheme was extended to Upper Primary Schools (std. V to VII) during 87-88. The scheme was further extended to the students of Std.VIII during 2007-08. The scheme consists of supplying cooked food to the children using rice, pulses, vegetables, egg, milk and coconut oil/palmolen.

Government of India launched the above scheme as a Centrally Sponsored one on 15th of August 1995. The centrally sponsored scheme originally covered the children of primary stage studying in Std. I to V, in Govt. / Local bodies/ Govt. Aided Schools. The scheme was further extended to the children studying in Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative Innovative Education centers also, in October 2002. During this academic year the scheme was extended to Upper Primary section also.

By implementing the scheme it is hoped that at least 90% class attendance can be ensured every day and drop out of pupils in the midst of an academic year can be avoided. The outcome of the scheme is not only to give food to school pupils by Government but also to make the children eat a common dish at a common place in their respective school premises and thereby establish cordial relationship, mutual understanding, healthy friendship and emotional unity among children.

1.2 Management Structure

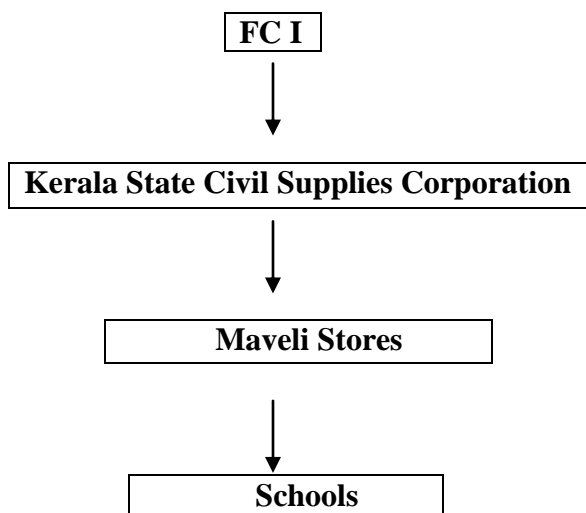


1.3 The AWPB is evolved after detailed discussion based on the data from the field and the resources that can be made available from the state for the implementation for the scheme. The Director of Public Instruction led from the front for this entire process of AWPB preparation. The other officials involved in the implementation of the MDM Scheme also participated in the process of the AWPB preparation.

2.1 During 2013-14 the MDM scheme is being implemented without any interruption. The Director of Public Instruction is the Nodal Officer of the MDM Scheme in Kerala. The State level Management, Monitoring & Evaluation of the scheme is done by the State level Steering cum Monitoring Committee with Secretary to Government (General Education) as the chairman and the Director of Public Instruction as the Member Secretary & Convener. District level Steering cum Monitoring committee is headed by the District collector and Deputy Director (Education) as secretary. At block level, Block Panchayat President is the Chairman and the Assistant Educational Officer is the Secretary. For the effective Implementation of the Programme in schools, a school level committee is constituted with PTA President as Chairman and the Headmaster of the school as the Member Secretary.

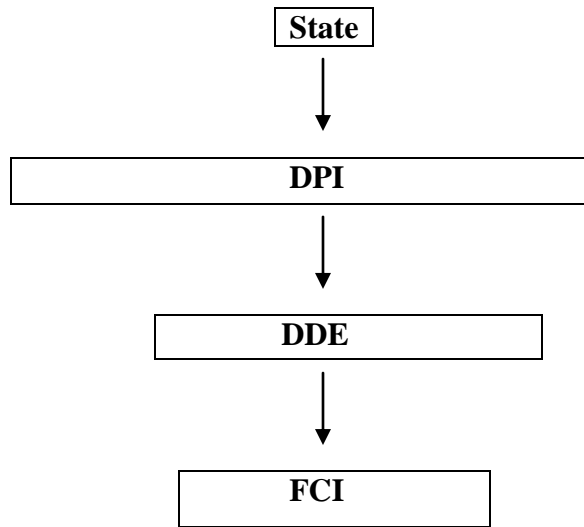
- 2.2 There is no NCLP School functioning in the state.
- 2.3 The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation is the nodal agency for lifting the food grains from FCI and supplying to the implementing agencies through Maveli Stores. The Headmaster is in charge of procuring food materials (rice, pulses etc) from the outlets of Civil Supplies Corporation. Deputy Director of Education is designated as the Nodal Officer for supervising the lifting of rice from FCI.

Food Grain Flow Chart



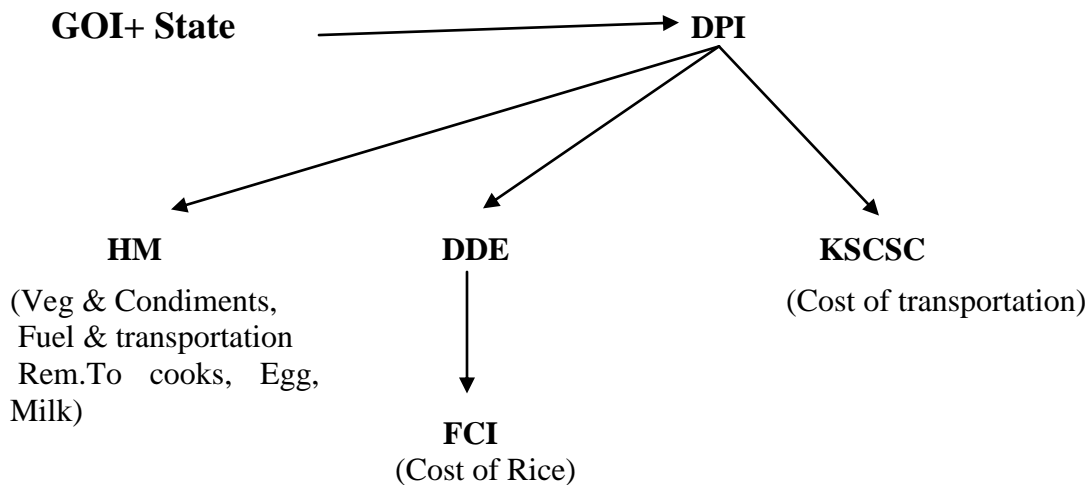
- 2.4 Deputy Director Education is designated as the Nodal Officer for making payment to FCI. The cost of food grains for the 1st & 2nd quarter is e-transferred to the District authority in the 1st week of April and the cost of 3rd & 4th quarter transferred in the 1st week of September. Directions were given to the District Authorities to pay the same to the FCI on the same day of receipt of bill from the FCI.

System for Payment of Cost to FCI



There is no outstanding amount pending with state for payment to FCI for the previous year.

2.5 Fund Flow



80% of cooking cost & remuneration to cook-cum-helpers for 6 months was e-transferred to school's account during the last week of May, 2013. The next instalment for another 3 months was released during the 1st week of October. The last and final instalment will be released by the 1st week of February, 2014.

- 2.6** Table AT-24 attached.
- 2.7** In Kerala, MDM Scheme is implemented by the school Noon Feeding Committee. This committee is appoints the cook cum helpers to the school. Preference is given to appointment of cook cum helpers from the socially and economically weaker sections / the disadvantaged segments of the society. Remuneration to cooks is disbursed by the HMs as cash. A minimum Rs.200/- is paid as wages for each working day to the cook for a student strength up to 100 student. For strength exceeding 100, 25 paise per child is additionally subject to a maximum wages of Rs.250/- . One cook is provided up to 500 students and above 500 hundred, two cooks can be provided. A total number of 18987 cook cum helpers has been approved for 2013-14. But only 13737 cook cum helpers are engaged now. Proposals have already been submitted to the State Government to appoint one cook for every 250 students in a school. Hence a proposal for 18987 cook cum helpers is submitted for next year.
- 2.8** Headmaster is in charge of procuring food materials (rice, pulses etc) from the outlets of Civil Supplies Corporation. Condiments, oil, fuel etc are procured locally by the school noon feeding committee.
- 2.9** The meal is prepared in the school premises (in Kitchen shed). Members of mother PTA are actively participating in cooking and serving of food. The presence of mother PTA ensures the quality of food. Teachers taste the food before serving and supervise the serving of food.
- 2.10** In Kerala, the mid day meal scheme was started during 1984. Permanent or semi permanent kitchen sheds were put up in each and every school since 1985. In Govt. aided schools, kitchen sheds were constructed by the school managers. In Govt. schools, kitchen sheds were constructed by Govt. or by the PTA. As the scheme is extended to UP section also, in most of the schools, the storage facility and kitchen shed is not adequate for the present need. Central assistance of Rs.2544.60 lakh had been received towards construction of 2450 kitchen sheds during 2006-07 to 2009-10 for primary and upper primary stages. Out of this 318 have been constructed. Construction work is under progress for 484 kitchen cum stores and construction work is yet to be started for the remaining 1648 kitchen cum stores. In view of the high labour cost and dearth of building materials, the remaining kitchen shed could not be constructed. However, the

department is trying to construct the remaining kitchen cum stores on priority basis by raising funds from Local Self Government Institutions and MP, MLA's funds. Central assistance Rs. 6419.15 lakh for 2738 kitchen cum stores has been approved during the period 2013-14; but funds are not yet released. Hence a proposal for the construction of 2460 kitchen cum stores is submitted for next year.

- 2.11** The funds released by GOI are allotted to school authorities for procuring the Kitchen devices so as to select the item for their need. In most of the schools, the kitchen devices are provided by the PTAs. Central assistance of Rs. 200.95 lakhs had been received towards procurement / replacement of Kitchen utensils for a total number of 4019 Schools @ Rs. 5000/- per School during 2006-07 to 2008-09 for primary and upper primary stages. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 73.65 lakhs was already disbursed to 1473 Schools. Steps are being taken to release the remaining amount of Rs.127.30 lakhs to 2546 schools. Central assistance for Rs.370.55 lakh for 7411 schools has been approved during the period 2013-14; but funds are not yet released. Hence a proposal for procurement of 7235 is submitted for next year.
- 2.12** Steps are being taken to train cook cum helpers during summer vacation. Orientation was given to the staff involved in the implementation and monitoring of the Mid Day Meal Scheme. This process will be continued next year also. Training to teachers will be given during vacation period.
- 2.13** School authorities submit details of utilization of food grains and stock position to the Assistant Educational Officer every month. 163 AEOs (Block level) in the state are connected online and data from the Sub District can be accessed from the Directorate. Steps are being taken to provide net facilities to all schools.
- 2.14** For the implementation of the programme in schools, a committee is constituted with PTA President as President and Headmaster as the Member Secretary. Other members of the committee are, one member from Local Self Government, two teachers (one should be a woman), one member from mother PTA, two representatives from parents of feeding students belonging to SC/ST. Involvement of PTA and MPTA ensures the transparency of the programme. The Head of the school keeps attendance of the students participating in the MDM scheme every day. The HM also keeps stock register (K2 Register). Stock

register is updated every day. The school feeding committee conducts audit and admit all the accounts of Mid Day Meal every month.

- 2.15** Till 2010, funds towards cooking cost were distributed through PRI concerned. This routing of funds through PRIs causes much delay. To avoid the delay, we have introduced e-transfer of the funds directly to the AEOs and the AEO e-transfer the funds to HM's account. From 2012 onwards funds towards cooking cost is released to HM's account directly by e- transfer well in advance.
- 2.16** State Institute of Education Management and Training (SIEMAT) has been directed to conduct Evaluation study and their report is awaited.
- 2.17** 80% of cooking cost & remuneration to cook-cum-helpers for 6 months is released in advance in the beginning of school academic year. Funds are e-transferred to HM's account. Further, the cost of food grains for the 1st & 2nd quarter was e-transferred to the District authority in the 1st week of April and the cost of 3rd & 4th quarter transferred in the 1st week of September. Directions were given to the District Authorities to pay the same to the FCI on the same day of receipt of bill from the FCI. This method helps avoid delay in delivering of cooking cost and cost of food grains at school level and FCI respectively.
- 2.18** Involvement of mother PTA and ward members ensures the quality of food. The school feeding committee conducts audit and admit all the accounts of Mid Day Meal every month. Teachers are also taste the food before serving and supervise the serving of food. There is no incident of unhygienic food served or students fallen ill after having taken food, so far.
- 2.19** Involvement of mother PTA and ward members ensures the quality of food. Teachers voluntarily come to taste the food and ensure the quality of food before supplying to the children.
- 2.20** For the implementation of the scheme, School Noon Feeding committee, consisting of PTA President, members of Mother PTA, Ward Member, Head of the institution, teacher's representatives is constituted. There is no involvement of NGOs in implementing the Scheme. PRI is involved in monitoring the implementation.
- 2.21** The School Health Programme is being implemented in the state as a joint venture of Department of Health Services and Department of Education, aided by the National Rural

Health Mission. The programme is now in all schools in the State. Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplementation has been started in the state from 3/2013. No statistics in this regard are available with the Educational Department. Steps will be taken with Health and Social Welfare Department for effective implementation of School Health Programme.

- 2.22** There is a Noon Feeding Supervisor in the district. He could cover only 60 to 70 percent institutions. The Deputy Directors of Education are also engaged for the monitoring the scheme.
- 2.23** Permission was given to all Noon feeding Supervisors and District Educational Officers to hire vehicles for inspecting the schools. There is a committee at school level for the implementation and monitoring the scheme. The SMCs at various levels are functioning properly.
- 2.24** Secretary to General Education of the State has given direction to all District Magistrates to convene the meeting of the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee on a quarterly basis under the Chairmanship of the senior most Member of Parliament of the District for review of the Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- 2.25** There is a Noon Feeding Supervisor in the district. The supervisor visits the schools and examines the food served and verifies the stock and other records. The Assistant Educational Officer, District Educational Officer and Deputy Director Education visit the schools and monitor the mid day meal scheme. Vehicle is provided to all Deputy Directors Education for their school visit. Permission was given to all Noon feeding Supervisors and District Educational Officers to hire vehicles for inspecting the schools and target were given to visit at least 25 schools in a month. There is a committee at school level for the implementation and monitoring the scheme
- 2.26** There is no adverse comment received from the Monitoring Institutions so far. The only remarks was that there is interruption in supply of mid day meal in Pathanamthitta District in the beginning of school year and that meals are not served during annual examinations at the end of the school year. We have already given strict instructions to all school authorities to serve MDM from the 1st day of re opening of the school year and also to serve meals to children during annual examinations days.

- 2.27** Instructions were also given to all district authorities for linkages with Primary Health Centre / Community Health Centre / District Hospital to ensure early treatment of the children if any untoward incident occurs.
- 2.28** A grievance redressal forum has been constituted as per Order No. GO (MS)No.10/2011/GE dn. Dated 19-1-2011 at state level with PTA members, representatives of teachers' organization, DPI, Local body authorities etc. The Telephone land line number and the e-mail Id of the Noon meal section in the Directorate have also been published to register the grievance.
- 2.29** Media campaign has not been conducted during the current academic year.
- 2.30** The Mid Day Meal Programme is being implemented in the state in a good manner. However the present system of implementation of the scheme needs some changes to improve the quality of food, cooking cost and transportation cost. It is suggested to provide Special fund to convert all the kitchen to Gas based instead of using firewood.