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मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 115

D.O. No.13-4/2013-MDM 2-1

5th August, 2013

Dear

Sumit,

The 5th Joint Review Mission visited Uttar Pradesh from July 8-17, 2013 under the leadership of Smt. Rita Chhatterjee, Joint Secretary, MDM, Ministry of HRD and Dr. Kalpana Kulshreshta, Prof and Head, Food & Nutrition, College of Home Science, Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar. The JRM consisted of the representatives from Government of India, State Government of Tripura, representative of Supreme Court Commissioner Office, and the Monitoring Institute. The JRM was also assisted by Research Fellows from Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar and Consultants from Ed CIL's Technical Support Group for Mid-Day Meal Scheme. The JRM covered 62 schools in the Shrawasti and Sitapur districts, and presented its report to the State Government on July 17, 2013.

The mission appreciated the use of IVRS by State Government for real time monitoring of the MDMS. The mission was very pleased to know that the State Government has opened separate bank account for all the schools in the nearest CBS branches in compliance to the recommendations of the First Review Mission visited the State in 2010. The mission was also very appreciative of the fact that the State Finance Department released Central as well as State share well in advance to districts in anticipation of release of central assistance by Government of India.

There are however, certain critical areas of concern as indicated in the attachment, which need your personal attention such as high level of malnutrition. Using Body Mass Index Z score (WHO 2007) as recommended by WHO, on a sample of 889 school children availing mid-day meal; 30% boys and 21% girls in primary and 36% boys and 21% girls in upper primary were suffering from severe under nutrition. District wise data reveals that the number of children suffering from under nutrition is much higher in Shrawasti as about 45% boys and 29% girls in upper primary are suffering from under nutrition. It is relevant to mention here that in the Shrawasti district coverage of enrolled children is very low; what is worse it has been in the poorly performing category for last two years.



Another area of concern was disruptions in the serving of mid day meal, as in Ikona and Hariharpur Rani blocks of Shrawasti mid day meal was served only for 150 days against the approval of 234 days. The mission also observed that the State is not using IVRS optimally as the exception reports regarding non-serving of MDM in a particular school have been generated but no action has been taken on such reports, as a result meal could not be served for a number of days.

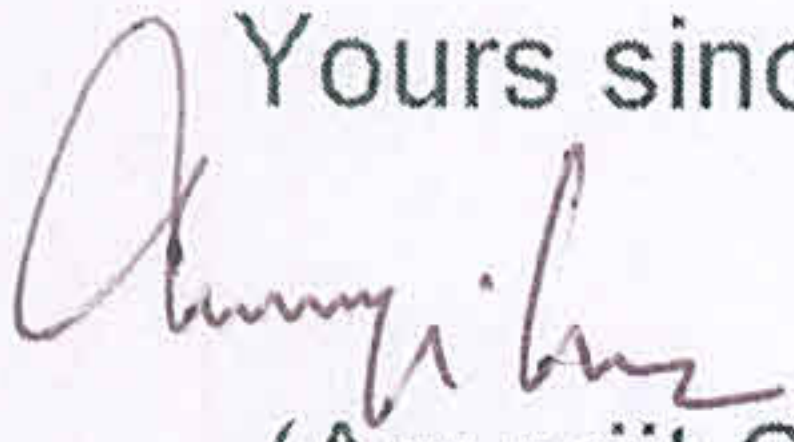
In addition your attention is drawn to the following issues:

- i) The need for setting up of an effective Management Structure for MDMS, at various levels.
- ii) Tasting of the meal by at least one teacher before it is served to the children.
- iii) Safe storage and supply of ingredients to schools. Procurement of pulses and ingredients of branded and Agmark quality and supply to schools on the lines of Maharashtra by the State Civil Supplies Corpn.
- iv) Capacity building of cook-cum-helpers as well as inspection staff.
- v) Creating greater awareness about the entitlements of the children under the Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- vi) Convening of District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting under the Chairmanship of Member of Parliament from the district.
- vii) Convening of regular review meetings at District level.
- viii) Social Audit of the Scheme on the pattern of Andhra Pradesh.
- ix) Testing of food samples by reputed NABL approved Food Laboratories.
- x) Submission of Action Taken Notes on reports of the Monitoring Institutes, Joint Review Mission etc.
- xi) Need for an Emergency Medical Plan

The detailed report of the JRM is enclosed at **Annexure A**. I shall appreciate if the Action Taken on the above as well as attached recommendations of JRM as well as MI's observations are submitted to the MHRD within a period of 3 months from the date of submission of JRM report.

A little effort on your part will ensure that no child goes hungry in schools in your State.

With regards

Yours sincerely

(Amarjit Singh)

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