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**Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
Mid Day Meal Scheme**



4th Review Mission
PUNJAB
3rd – 10th October, 2012

Districts:

- i) Pathankot
- ii) Amritsar

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Acknowledgement

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7. Food Corporation of India, Amritsar
8. Authorities of the visited districts/blocks
9. All Teachers/staff/Cook-cum-helpers/students of visited schools.

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Introduction

Mid Day Meal Scheme is a flagship programme of Government of India covering 10.54 crore children across the country. Central Government provides 100 percent central assistance for cost of food grains supplied by the Food Corporation of India, Transportation Cost of food grains from FCI godowns to schools, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation charges and Procurement of kitchen devices. The cost for the remaining components viz. Cooking Cost, Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers and Construction of Kitchen-cum-stores is shared between the Government of India and States in 75:25 ratio for all States and Union Territories except North Eastern States where the sharing pattern is 90:10 between Central Government and State Governments. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is revised from time to time. The following revision was made in December, 2009.

- i) Change in food norm for upper primary. There is no change in the food norm for primary.
- ii) Upward revision of cooking cost
- iii) Introduction of separate provision of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers @ Rs. 1000 per cook-cum-helper per month on sharing basis.
- iv) Determination of cost of kitchen-cum-stores on the basis of plinth area norm and State Schedule Rates instead of a flat rate of Rs. 60,000 per unit.
- v) Transportation assistance @ at par with PDS rate in the 11 special category States (8 NER + 3 hilly States) instead of Rs. 125 per quintal
- vi) Decentralization of payment of cost of foodgrains at district level w.e.f. 1.4.2010.

The norms for NCLP schools have been revised from 1st November, 2011 and made at par with upper primary norms. The cooking cost has also been revised by 7.5% w.e.f. 1.7.2012.

Visit of Review Mission to Punjab

Govt. of India constituted Review Missions (RM) in 2009 comprising members from Government of India, State Government, UNICEF and Office of Supreme Court Commissioner to review the implementation of the Scheme in the selected State. Review Mission has visited 14 States across the country so far and submitted report to the States and Government of India for taking corrective measures. This Mission is the 4th Review Mission of MDM which visited Punjab from 3rd - 10th October, 2012. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Mission are attached at **Annexure-I**. The recommendations of the Review Mission are based on the evidences collected and the information gathered during the review of implementation of the Scheme in Pathankot and Amritsar districts.

Provision of MDM under Right to Education Act, 2009: The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, envisaged under Article 21-A came into force with effect from 1st April 2010. As per the decisions of the Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India

that SSA is the vehicle to realize the provisions of RTE Act, 2009. Chapter 4, Para 21 of RTE Act, 2009 stipulates that preference will be given to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections while nominating the representatives for the School Management Committee. The Act further states that all schools should have all weather building consisting of a kitchen-cum-stores to cook mid day meal in the school by 2012-13. The model rules under RTE Act also provide that School Management Committee will monitor the implementation of the Mid Day Meal in the school. This Mission on Mid Day Meal Scheme in the State of Punjab is the 1st field based Review Mission on MDMS after these developments.

2. Objectives of the Review Mission

- (i) To review the performance of the Scheme in Punjab in the light of the Guidelines of the Mid Day Meal Scheme.
- (ii) To suggest policy measures for effective implementation of the Scheme

3. Performance of the Scheme:

3.1 Physical and Financial Performance of the Scheme

i) Coverage under Primary

The details regarding enrolment and coverage of children reveal that coverage has gone down from 88% of the enrolled children in 2009-10 to 84% during 2011-12. It has further gone down to 80% during the first quarter of 2012-13.

Year	Enrolment	PAB approval	Avg. availed MDM	% Availed vs. Enrol.	% Availed vs PAB app.
2008-09	1354626	1300279	1195590	88%	92%
2009-10	1325592	1195590	1165947	88%	98%
2010-11	1301895	1170297	1085764	83%	93%
2011-12	1337964	1150000	1128592	84%	98%
2012-13	1333614	1179000	1065455	80%	90%

ii) Coverage under Upper Primary

At the upper primary level there are not much variation as the coverage has gone down from 92% during 2009-10 to 86% during 2010-11 and then gone up to 91% during 2011-12. However during the first quarter of 2012-13 the coverage has gone down to 85%.

Year	Enrolment	PAB approval	Avg. availed MDM	% availed vs. Enrol.	% availed vs PAB app.
2008-09	868849	868849	727733	84%	84%
2009-10	751083	727733	689893	92%	95%
2010-11	779104	689893	667896	86%	97%
2011-12	788201	713000	714455	91%	100%
2012-13	792551	715000	672870	85%	94%

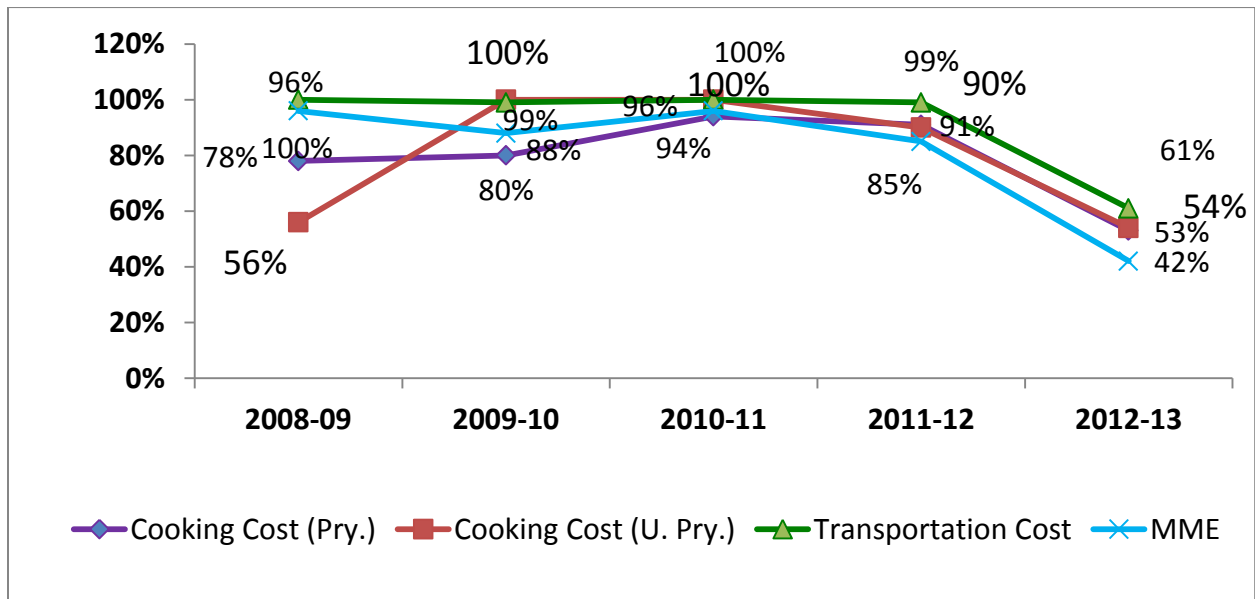
iii) Details of Availability of funds and Expenditure against Central Assistance

(Rs. in Lakh)

Year	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13 as on 31.07.2012	
Component	Availability of Funds	Exp.	Availability of Funds	Exp.	Availability of Funds	Exp.	Availability of Funds	Exp.	Availability of Funds	Exp.
Cost of FG Payment to FCI (Pry.) & (U.Pry.)	2655.13		2537.29		2129.75	2129.75	2748.63	2563.45	872.86	516.38
Cooking Cost (Pry.)	4519.76	3514.63	4155.87	3312.75	5200.80	4905.45	6023.67	5491.96	2037.56	1089.09
Cooking Cost (U.Pry.)	4014.08	2252.87	3362.13	3362.13	4583.65	4583.65	5561.40	5029.69	1913.51	1036.35
Transportation Cost	429.58	429.58	377.38	372.22	326.17	326.14	400.7	395.23	105.72	64.00
MME	218.03	209.03	191.94	168.22	225.46	216.2	332.03	282.36	132.72	56.00
Honorarium to cook-cum-helpers	-				3711.75	2799.74	3711.75	2505.47	2134.23	260.76

iv) % Utilisation of Central Assistance against availability

% Utilization of Central Assistance against Availability					
Component	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 as on 30.06.2012
Cost of Food Grain	100%	100%	100%	93%	59%
Cooking Cost (Pry.)	78%	80%	94%	91%	53%
Cooking Cost (U. Pry.)	56%	100%	100%	90%	54%
Transportation Cost	100%	99%	100%	99%	61%
MME	96%	88%	96%	85%	42%
Honorarium to cook-cum-helpers	--	--	75%	68%	12%



The entire admissible central assistance was released to the State by the Department of School Education & literacy. But the Finance Department of State Government did not release Rs. 7525.92 lakh to the Education Department till 12th July, 2012. But the school authorities continued to implement the scheme by taking grocery items for MDM on credit basis from the shopkeepers or through self-contribution. Most of the schools visited by the Review Mission had negative unspent balance as on 01.04.2012. The liability was settled as soon as the funds were made available to the Education Department by State Finance Department in July, 2012.

3.2 Component wise Details of Availability and Expenditure of funds against Central Assistance

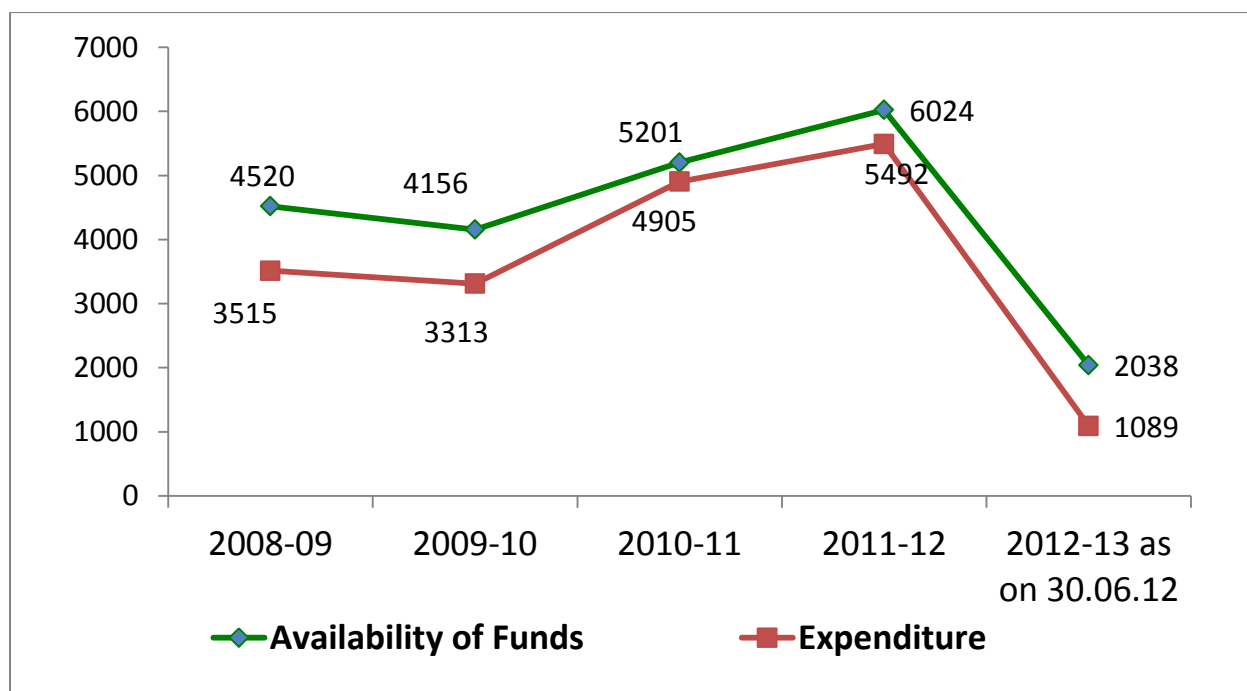
i) Utilisation of Cooking Cost (Pry)

The trends regarding utilisation of cooking cost reflects increasing trends for utilisataion of funds. The State has utilized 80% of the available funds during 2009-10 which has gone up to 94% during 2010-11, however the utilisation against available funds gone down slightly to 91% during 2011-12.

(Rs in lakh)

Cooking Cost (Pry)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 as on 31.07.2012
Availability of Funds	4519.76	4155.87	5200.80	6023.67	2037.56
Expenditure	3514.63	3312.75	4905.45	5491.96	1089.09

Cooking Cost (Pry) (Rs in lakh)

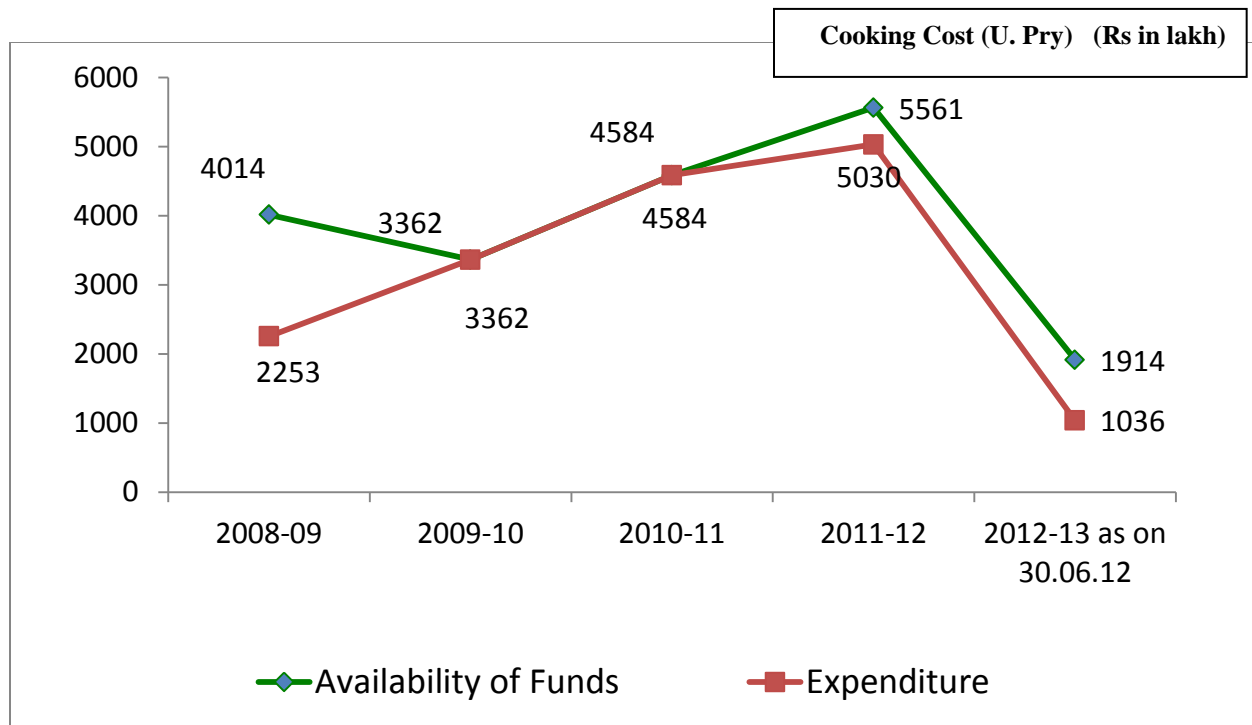


1. Utilisation of Cooking Cost (U. Prr)

The State has utilized 100% of the available funds during 2009-10 and 2010-11. 90% of the available funds have been utilized during 2011-12.

(Rs in lakh)

Cooking Cost (U. Prr)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 as on 30.06.2012
Availability of Funds	4014.08	3362.13	4583.65	5561.40	1913.51
Expenditure	2252.87	3362.13	4583.65	5029.69	1036.35

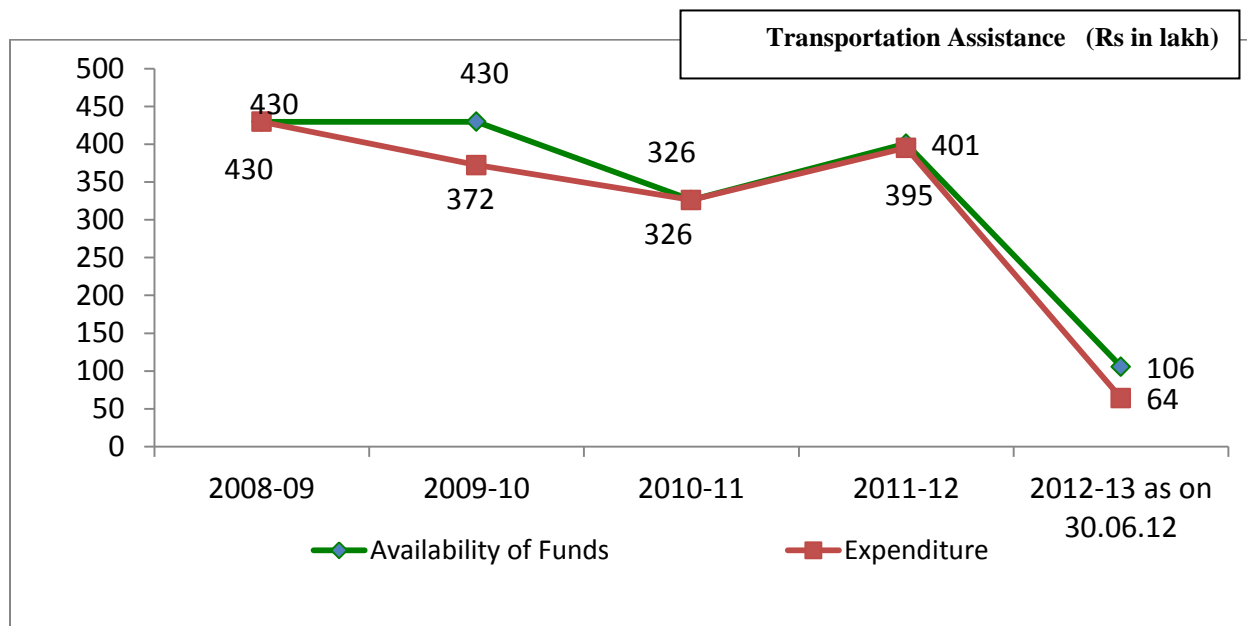


2. Utilisation of Transportation Assistance

The data on utilization of Transportation Assistance reveals that the State has utilized almost all the funds available under transportation Assistance barring during 2009-10 when only 87% funds could have been utilized.

(Rs. in lakh)

Transportation Assistance	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 as on 31.07.2012
Availability of Funds	429.58	429.58	326.17	400.7	105.72
Expenditure	429.58	372.22	326.14	395.23	64.00

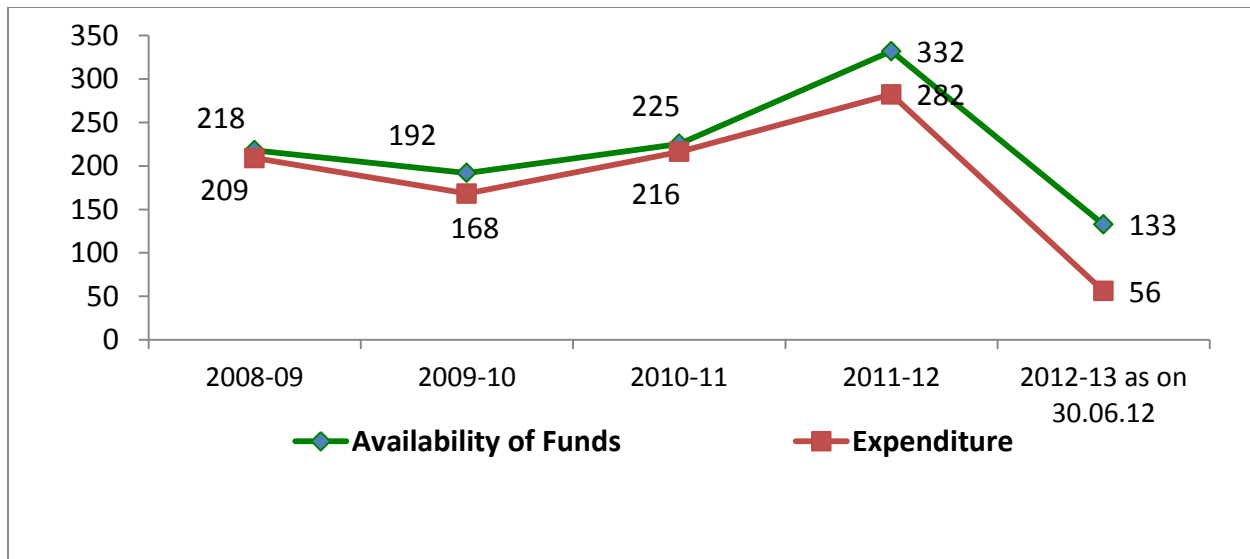


3. Utilisation of Management Monitoring and Evaluation(MME)

MME is a very important component and its proper and complete utilization indicates towards the health of the scheme in State. The Utilisation of MME grant is pretty good in Punjab. However, the utilization has gone down to 85% during 2011-12 from 96% during 2010-11.

(Rs. in lakh)

MME	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 as on 31.07.2012
Availability of Funds	218.03	191.94	225.46	332.03	132.72
Expenditure	209.03	168.22	216.2	282.36	56.00



4. Methodology

The multi stage stratified random sampling is used for selection of the units for detailed observations. The districts are selected on the basis of performance of the Scheme during the last year.

- i) Two districts viz. Pathankot and Amritsar were selected for review of the Scheme in the State of Punjab. Amritsar was selected by the State Government and Pathankot was selected by the GOI on the basis of newly carved district from Gurdaspur, where the performance of the Scheme was poor in 2011-12. The multistage stratified random sampling was used for selection of block in the selected districts. The same procedure was adopted for selection of schools in every block in each district. 20 schools spreading across in 6 blocks in Pathankot and 27 schools from 7 blocks in Amritsar were selected to see the actual implementation of the Scheme.
- ii) The Review Mission followed a methodology to capture in depth, the intricacies involved in the implementation of the programme. In spite of selecting a huge sample, the review mission emphasized the need for a greater in depth study to see the details in their entirety.
- iii) The documents available with the implementing agencies were carefully studied and analyzed. Detailed discussions were held with State, District, Block and School level functionaries
- iv) Interview with stakeholders and record based inquiry methodology is followed to capture the information on the performance of the scheme during the visit.

5. Proposed Structure of MDMS in the State

Mid Day Meal Scheme in Punjab is implemented by the Department of School Education which is headed by Secretary at State level who is assisted by the Director General, School Education (DGSE). A separate Mid Day Meal Cell at the State Level consisting of a General Manager and four Managers has been constituted under DGSE. They are assisted by one Accountant and four Data Entry Operators. At The District Level one District Manager has been posted who is assisted by one Accountant and one Data Entry Operator. One Assistant Block Manager has been posted in each Block to implement and supervise the Mid Day Meal Scheme at the school level.

It is relevant to mention that there are separate Directors for following schemes:-

- | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| i) | Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan | State Project Director |
| ii) | Secondary Education | Director |
| iii) | SCERT | Director |

It would be pertinent to mention that a dedicated set up exists under the above said Directorates/programmes but no such arrangement is available under Mid Day Meal Scheme. Total Sanctioned Strength of all categories under MDM Scheme is as under:

Post	State	District	Block	School	Remarks
Director(Elementary)	1	0	0	0	No exclusive Director / Additional Director/ Joint Director / Deputy Director / Assistant Director for MDMS in the State
Additional Director	0	0	0	0	
Joint Director	0	0	0	0	
Deputy Director	2	0	0	0	
Assistant Director	3	0	0	0	
Circle (Jalandhar, Nabha and Faridkot)	0	3	0	0	
DEO(Elementary)	0	21	0	0	No exclusive DEO/BEEO for MDM
BEEO	0	0	216	0	
Managers	5	21	0	0	
Assistant Block Managers	0	0	216	0	Only 150 are filled up
Cook-cum-Helpers	0	0	0	49490	

It is evident from the above table that there is no exclusive Director, MDM at State level to look after Mid Day Meal Scheme. The Review Mission observed that none of the Additional Director, Joint Director, Deputy Director and Assistant Director has been exclusively assigned to mid day meal scheme at Directorate level. There is also no regular official at district and block level to look after MDMS at district and block level.

The Review Mission proposes and recommends that a mid day meal authority headed by Director may be set up on the pattern of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. to assist the DGSE, Govt. of Punjab with following structure for MDM at State, District and block level.

Stage	Name of the Post	Number
State Level	Director	1
	Additional Director	1
	Deputy Director	3 (One each for each circle)
	Administrative Officer	1
	Accounts Officer	1
	Programme Officer (in the grade of DEO/Senior Lecturer in DIET)	4 (One each for Planning & Monitoring, Research & Evaluation, Nutrition and MIS)
	Programmer	1
	Junior Superintendent/ Jr. Accounts Officer	2
	Clerical Staff	8 (4 each for Jr. Supdt and Jr. Accounts Officer.)
	Support Staff (Group-D)	4
District	District Manager	Present system may continue
	Data Entry Operators	
Block level	Assistant Block Manager	Present system may continue

The above posts may be filled up on deputation/contractual basis and the expenditure may be debited to funds allocated under MME component of the scheme in which the Government of India provides cent percent Central assistance @ of 1.8% of total admissible Central assistance for four components of the scheme viz. i) food grain cost, ii) cooking cost, iii) transportation assistance and iv) honorarium to cook cum helpers. As per MDM Guidelines, the States / UTs have the flexibility to utilize 50% funds for school level expenses for forms, stationery, soaps, plates, glasses, mats, training of cook-cum-helpers and replacement / repair / maintenance of cooking devices, utensils storage bins etc. and 50% for other activities viz. hiring charges of manpower on contractual basis at various

levels, hiring of transport and contingencies, office expenditure, furniture, computer hardware and consumables, capacity building of officials, preparation of relevant manuals, external monitoring and evaluation, publicity etc.

The Review Commission recommends that if the State Government does not have adequate MME funds for these posts, it may approach MHRD for additional funds.

6. Enhancement of Contract Fee to Assistant Block Manager (ABM) under MDMS

The Review Mission observed that contract fee of Rs. 6000 per month is being paid to Assistant Block Manager (at Block level) which is too meager to subsist. Even an unskilled labourer earns Rs. 300 per day. As compared to it, the accountants under SSA get Rs. 14000 per month. So there is an urgent need to enhance the Contract Fee of Assistant Block Manager by upward revision of their Contract Fee equivalent to that of SSA.

7. Strengthening of Management, Monitoring and Supervision of the Scheme in Punjab.

The Review Mission observed that online Management Information System (MIS) is not present in Punjab for capturing real time data on Mid Day Meal scheme. The data is compiled manually at district levels and sub districts levels.

Management Information System is an important management tool for monitoring the implementation of the scheme. The State has started feeding annual data into the web portal launched by MHRD. But the pace of such entries is very slow. The Review Mission observed that Amritsar district had made only 50 entries against the 1344 entries whereas Gurdaspur which is also feeding data for Pathankot district has made 374 entries against the 2105 3ntries. The Review Mission recommends that the required no. of entries may be made immediately in a time bound manner. The funds for this purpose may be utilized from MME funds allocated to the State.

8. Revision of Cooking Cost

The cooking ingredients (pulses, vegetables including leafy ones, salt, condiments, oil & fuel etc), and other commodities are locally purchased at school level. The Head Teachers and Principals of the visited schools informed that the cooking cost per child per day is too less and very difficult to serve the meal as per norms of the Scheme. They also mentioned that hike in the prices of the gas cylinder has created problems for them.

The Review Mission observed that the cooking cost under primary and upper primary stages should be revised to counter the effect of inflation on the items of MDM basket. The Review Mission recommended that the Mid Day Meal Price Index should be developed on the items of the MDM basket to revise the cooking cost on regular interval on the lines of

Wholesale Price Index, Consumer Price Index and Index of Industrial Production in the country.

9. Release of funds to National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Schools

The Government of India revised the norms for NCLP schools w.e.f. 1st November, 2011 and made at par with Upper Primary norms. NCLP schools are primary Schools but the children are eligible for benefit as per Upper Primary norm due to their higher age group. 87 NCLP Schools are in the State of Punjab spreading in 3 districts viz. Amritsar, Jalandhar and Ludhiana. These schools have strength of 4350 children. The State Government has started providing assistance to these schools at the Upper Primary norms w.e.f 1st January 2012. Review Mission visited a NCLP school in Amritsar and found that there are no funds released to the school after February, 2012. The Review Mission observed that the District Education Officer is releasing fund to Project Director, NCLP at district who in turn released funds to NCLP schools. This has delayed release of funds considerably.

The Review Mission strongly recommended that District Education Officer should release fund to NCLP schools directly as is the case with primary and upper primary schools under his jurisdiction.

10. Utilization of interest accrued on the MDM Grant

The Review Mission observed that the schools were dry of funds whereas the District Authorities had earned huge amount of interest on the MDM Grant kept in the bank accounts. This interest could have been utilized for providing financial assistance to the schools who were resorting to managing the programme by taking grocery items on loan basis or by self contribution by the teachers.

The Review Mission recommends that instead of keeping the interest as a non productive asset, it should be utilized for the purpose for which MDM grant was released.

11. Release of Cooking Cost

Review Mission observed that clear cut instructions have not been issued by the State Government to the field functionaries about payment of cooking cost. Review Mission also observed that School Management Committees are utilizing cooking cost in proportion to the food grain utilization and which has resulted in denial of nutritious meal containing necessary calorific value, to the children.

Review Mission re-iterate that cooking cost is given for providing pulses, green leafy vegetable, oil & fats, condiments and fuel cost. Cooking Cost should be released to the implementing agencies as per the number of children availed mid day meal. It should not be linked with the utilization of food grain under MDMS.

12. Verification of the Accounts / Records of MDMS

The Review Mission was informed about the financial crunch due to the non-release of balance amount of Central Assistance [35% after adjusting unspent balance as on 1.4.2012 and adhoc grant (25%) released during 2012-13] to the State during 2012-13. The Review Mission was also informed that the State Government could not submit the correct information to the Central Government on utilization of funds during 2011-12, which has resulted in delay in release of Central assistance to the State.

It is relevant to mention that Central assistance of Rs. 50 crore was released with the State Government under 2nd installment during December, 2011 against the admissible amount of Rs. 75.15 crore because the State had incurred only 66% of expenditure against the funds made available to it under 1st installment. The State Government informed that it has incurred expenditure of Rs. 158 crore against the allocation of Rs. 187 crore during 2011-12 so as to get the release of balance amount of Rs. 25.15 crore which was released to the State Government during January 2012. Subsequently, it was reported by the State Government that the entire amount of Rs. 75.15 crore was not released to the Education Department by the State Finance Department until 12th July, 2012. The State Government informed to the Review Mission that State Finance Department has not released Rs. 75.15 crore due to model code of conduct on account of election in Punjab. Thus the State Government had not furnished correct information to the Central Government on the utilization of funds released during 2011-12. The State Government sought revalidation of this unspent balance of Rs. 75.15 crore lying with it on 1st April, 2012 from the released made during 2011-12. Special Secretary, Education, Government of Punjab mentioned that revalidation is not required because the funds have been released to meet the committed liability towards implementation of the Scheme by taking loan from the open market or contribution made by the teachers from their own pocket so that the Scheme is not interrupted due to the non-release of funds. As per the GFR, the unutilized grant of the previous year has to be taken into account while releasing the future grant and it should be revalidated by the grantee organization for utilization during the next financial year. The State Government may follow the instructions contained in GFR.

The Review Mission also verified the accounts / records from the Cash Book and Pass Book of the schools. It was observed that almost all the schools were having negative unspent balance ranging upto Rs. 1 lakh as on 1.4.2012. The members of the Review Mission also interacted with the teachers about the source of funding for such huge amount. It was clarified that the Scheme was implemented by taking loan from the open market or by the personal contribution of the teachers so as to avoid interruption of the Scheme in the absence of financial assistance from the State Government. The negative unspent balance has almost been liquidated from most of the schools after getting financial assistance from the State Government which received Rs. 75.15 crore from the State Finance Department as well as the funds made available under 25% of the adhoc release during 2012-13. The Review Mission advised the State Government to be careful in submitting the correct information about the utilization of funds to avoid unnecessary delay in releasing the funds.

The State Finance Department may also follow Green Channel system of Andhra Pradesh for release of funds to implementing agencies under MDMS. It is relevant to mention that the Ministry of HRD has already circulated the Green Channel system to all the States / UTs with request to follow the system.

13. Transfer of Funds and Manpower to Pathankot

Pathankot has recently been formed as a new district by carving it out of the Gurdaspur district. But the financial management of Mid Day Meal Scheme in Pathankot is still with Gurdaspur district. Similarly, limited manpower has been made available to Pathankot.

In order to ensure smooth implementation of the scheme in Pathankot, State Government should post adequate manpower in Pathankot district.

The Review Mission further recommends that State Government should allocate funds for MDMS directly to Pathankot district instead of routing it through Guradaspur.

14. Cook-cum-Helpers

a) Engaging Cook-cum-helpers

State Governments may engage cook-cum-helpers as per the following norms:

- i) Schools having student strength up to 25 - One cook-cum-helper
- ii) Schools having students between 26 and upto 100 - Two cook-cum-helpers
- iii) For every addition of up to 100 students - One additional cook-cum-helper.

The Review Mission observed that the cook-cum-helpers are engaged by the School Management Committee in the school as per the guidelines of the Government of India.

b) Payment of Honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers

The honorarium to Cook-cum-Helpers is being paid @ Rs. 1200 per month w.e.f. December, 2011. The State Government is contributing more than the minimum State share prescribed under the Guidelines. The payment to cook-cum-helper has been made upto August, 2012 and in few visited schools September honorarium has also been paid.

The Review Mission also observed that the honorarium to cook-cum-helpers is being paid in cash in both the districts and through bank in few of the visited schools by the SMC. Review Mission recommends that the State Government should also ensure that the payment is made to cook-cum-helpers by e-transfer of funds to their bank accounts.

15. Fund Flow Mechanism

Funds are sanctioned and released at the State level by Finance Department. Director General School Education draws the funds from the Treasury and funds are remitted to the District Education Officers (DEO) through electronic transfer. Funds are released by DEO to the implementing agency at village level i.e. SMC/Head Teacher of the schools.

The Review Mission observed 3-4 months delay in the release of funds to the implementing agency/school. The delay can be reduced by bypassing a few channels in the flow of funds. For instance, Director General, School Education can release the funds directly to the implementing agencies at the school level by bypassing DEO (Elementary) who should be endorsed a copy of sanction of allocation of funds to schools.

16. Foodgrains Management

The allotment of foodgrains is made by the Government of India as per the requirement of the State. The district wise allocation is made by the Nodal Officer at The State Level. Allocation of foodgrains is communicated to the Districts in advance so that there is no difficulty in lifting the foodgrains from FCI. The transportation agency namely the Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation (PUNSUP) has been identified as the Nodal Agency by the State Government to lift the foodgrains from the FCI godowns and transport it to the schools. As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi, Deputy Commissioners have been made responsible by the State Government to ensure that the quality of foodgrains lifted from FCI godowns is best available and at least should be of FAQ standard. Regular meetings are held by the Deputy Commissioner to monitor the quality and supply of foodgrains where in District Manager, PUNSUP and District Education Officer participate in such meetings. Quality of foodgrains and its availability in the Districts and implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme is also reviewed by the Chief Secretary at the State Level, in the Monthly Meetings of Deputy Commissioners.

Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation (PUNSUP) has prepared the route chart covering all the schools and supply of foodgrains is ensured regularly depending upon the consumption of the foodgrains in the schools. At the school level a Local Committee has been constituted in all the Districts to receive the foodgrains. The school Teacher is a Member Secretary of this committee and is responsible for the maintenance of the records. It is ensured by the Deputy Commissioners that the foodgrains delivered at the schools are stored in appropriate storage bins, though at some places such Storage bins still remains to be provided. Directions have been issued separately allowing the School Level Committees to procure the storage bins. Out of the sales proceeds of the Bardana (Gunny bags) rendered empty after utilization of the foodgrains. The proper weight of foodgrains at school level is being monitored by the school staff, Assistant Block Managers and Field Inspectors of PUNSUP.

Review Mission observed that all the schools have storage bins to store the foodgrains in the school. The foodgrains is stored in the kitchen-cum-store.

The Government of Punjab has decentralised the procurement of Pulses, Vegetables, condiments and spices, oils & fats, fortified salt etc to School Management Committees for procuring these items locally.

The Review Mission was informed by DGSE that double fortified salt will be used for preparation of MDM w.e.f. 1st November, 2012.

The Review Mission observed that the above items were available in the schools in sealed packs.

17. Payment of transportation assistance to lifting agency

The responsibility of the lifting of foodgrain and supply to schools is being assigned to the agency i.e. Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation (PUNSUP) as per contract with State Government. Accordingly, PUNSUP lifts the foodgrain from the FCI go-downs and distributes to Schools directly. The Mission observed that payment of transportation cost is being made to lifting agency by the Director General School Education after receiving the certified bills from the District Education Officers of the district.

The Review Mission found that there is no delay in making payment to lifting agency during 2011-12.

18. Management of the Mid Day Meal Scheme

- i) School Management Committee (SMC) - Mid Day Meal Scheme is implemented by School Management Committees. The Review Mission observed that the hot cooked meal is prepared and served to the children of the schools through School based cooking by the cooks engaged in the schools by the SMCs.
- ii) Involvement of Community - The Review Mission found that there are significant contributions by the community. Dr. Nihal Singh ex student of Govt. Sr. Sec. school Tahlishahib presently residing in USA, has donated Rs. 1 lakh for construction of dining hall in the school. He has also contributed Rs. 2 lakh for giving prizes to the outstanding students. Shri Darshan Singh has contributed Rs. 40000 for installing water cooler. The cost of 50 trolleys of soil for leveling the land in the school has been borne by a villager, who has not disclosed his name. Review Mission also observed that present system of implementation of MDM Scheme has provided opportunity to the community members participate and contribute in the scheme for creating infrastructure and providing nutritious hot cooked meals to the children.

19. Acceptance of Mid Day Meal

During the field visit to the selected districts, the Review Mission interacted with various stakeholders of the Mid Day Meal Scheme for seeking their views on the acceptance of the Scheme. The field observations brought out very clearly that the programme, despite its

limitations, has exerted a very positive impact on the stakeholders. The perceptions of the different sections involved in the programme - the children, parents teachers and the neighbouring households are as under:

- i) Acceptance among the children - Most of the children interviewed were found to accept the Mid Day Meal willingly. All the children enrolled in the schools have opted for mid day meal. The children irrespective of their background were found to enjoy the mid day meal by eating together.
- ii) Acceptance among the parents - It was evident that the parents particularly the poor had a very positive view on the Scheme. In the schools where the programme is operational, parents wanted the Scheme to continue but certain improvements like introduction of variety of menu. Mid Day Meal is effective for economic and social reasons. One of the parent mentioned that Mid Day Meal Scheme has provided a platform to the children to learn so many good habits while taking the food. Mothers are found to be tasting the meal and helping the cooks in few schools.
- iii) Acceptance among the teachers - The teachers were found to be very satisfied on the hot cooked meal being given to the children. The teachers are contributing from their own pocket to run the scheme when there are no funds available in the school for the scheme. Smt. Pavinder Kaur, Prinicpal, Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Sultanwind, Block Amritsar-I of District Amritsar has contributed about Rs. one lakh from her own pocket to run the scheme and the scheme was not disrupted even for a single day during the year. She took a lot of initiative in the mid day meal in the school to improve the quality of the meal. She mentioned that timely receipt of funds and foodgrains is a must to run the scheme. She mentioned that getting regular supply of LPG is very difficult. She also mentioned that Gas agencies demanding payment through cheque and it is not possible to make payment through cheque, when there is no fund in the MDM account. She suggested that allotment of no. of gas cylinder to school should be linked to enrolment of the children in the school. **Smt. Kaur has also suggested that nutritious meal may be served on the occasions of Children's day, Teacher's day and Education day to publicize the benefits of MDMS.**

One of the teachers in the visited schools tastes the mid day meal before serving it to the children. There was delay in reaching the fund to the school but the teachers managed the Scheme by contributing funds from their own resources so that the children are not deprived of the mid day meal. The money contributed by these teachers is recouped after receiving funds from the State Government.

For instance Mr. Satnam Singh, Head Teacher, Dholesah has contributed Rs. 25 lakh for school building. Mr. Singh is making regular payment of electricity bills of the school from his own pocket. Shri Singh informed the Review Mission that he is willing to donate Rs. 5 lakh for opening of the higher secondary school for girls only.

- iv) Acceptance by neighbouring households: The members of the Review Mission interacted with various persons living in the neighbourhood of the school to know about the implementation of the scheme in respective schools. Some of the children from these households had earlier studied from the school and were participating in the school activities with great respect because it infused the sense of belongingness to these ex-students and their parents. Most of the teacher had contributed in their own way for the school.

20. Payment of cost of foodgrains to FCI

The Central Government had decentralized the payment of cost of foodgrains at district level w.e.f. 1st April, 2010.

The allotment of Food grains is made by Government of India as per the requirement of the State. The district wise allocation is made by the Nodal Officer at the State level allocation of foodgrains along with allocation of funds is communicated and is made available to the districts in advance so that there is no difficulty in lifting the foodgrains and making payment to the FCI. The foodgrains are inspected by an Officer deputed by the Deputy Commissioner in the FCI godowns and if found up to the mark the same are lifted by the Nodal Agency PUNSUP up to 25th of the month. Bills for the quantity lifted are raised by the FCI up to 10th of the proceeding month which are paid at the District Level by the District Education Officers up to 30th of the month.

The Review Mission observed that the District Education Officers at districts are making payment to FCI. Both the districts had made payment of all the FCI bills received up to August, 2012.

The Review Mission observed that there is no delay in making the payment to FCI. As per guidelines of the MDM Scheme the FCI has to raise the bills within 10 days after lifting the foodgrains from FCI depot and payment should be made to FCI within 20 days from the receipt of the bills.

21. School Health Programme

The Review Mission observed that the health check up is carried out in all the visited schools by State Health Department and health card of children are available with the visited school.

The State Health Department has not provided prescribed dosage of Iron supplementation and Micronutrients as per norm to the children of primary and upper primary classes under School Health Programme. .

The Review Mission desired that the State Government should take necessary steps to ensure regular distribution of IFA tablets, Vitamin-A dosage, de-worming tablets to all the children as per the norms under School Health Programme of NRHM.

22. Infrastructure facilities

- i) Kitchen-cum-store – The long term viability and success of the Mid Day Meal Programme must be linked to the provision of basic infrastructure required for efficient implementation of the programme so that minimum distraction of the teachers as well as the students takes place under the program. The Review Mission observed that kitchen-cum-store is available in all the visited schools.
- ii) Kitchen Devices - The Review Mission observed that kitchen devices and eating plates are available in all the visited schools. The contribution of community is remarkable. The initiative of the State Govt. to provide Rs. 50 per student for procurement of eating plates, spoon and glass is highly appreciated. The Municipalities of the visited districts have also made contribution for procuring of kitchen devices, eating plates and Tiffin boxes.
- iii) Fire Extinguisher: Fire Extinguisher were available in all the schools although in some schools they were not installed in the kitchens-cum-stores where chances of fire are maximum.
- iv) Drinking water Facility : All the visited schools have arrangement of potable water but quality needs to be periodically checked.
- v) Toilet facilities: Almost all the schools have separate toilets for girls and boys but keeping in view the number of students their number is grossly inadequate. The cleanliness in the toilets is of miserable condition in almost all the schools. Even supply of water in the toilets is not proper. The separate toilet is available in majority of the schools for children with special need.

23. Evaluation of the Scheme

The Review Mission observed that there is no evaluation study conducted by the State Government during 2010-11 and 2011-12.

As per MDM Guidelines, Central Government is providing Central assistance for conducting the studies by reputed Institutions by utilizing funds provided under Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) head of the Scheme.

The Review Mission suggested that State Govt. should engage reputed institutions to do at least one study on Mid Day Meal Scheme in a year. State govt. is also advised to constitute its own Review Mission to review the Scheme as per the defined ToR on the lines of the Central Govt. The State Review Mission may review the scheme through field visits in one poor performing district on bi-monthly basis.

24. Awareness Programme on MDM Day and Month

The Mid Day Meal Scheme is unique because of its nature, simplicity and visibility. The beneficiary under the scheme is almost present in each household particularly in the population from the disadvantage sections of the Society. But most of the beneficiaries and other stakeholders are unaware of the entitlements and rights of children under Mid Day Meal Scheme and also the significance of the logo of MDM. Government of India has issued guidelines for printing of logo on the outside wall of the eligible schools. The Review Mission found that none of the visited schools had displayed the logo. The Menu as well as food norms were also not displayed in the schools.

Review Mission suggests that State Government should issue necessary instruction to the schools for displaying logo, daily menu, entitlements as well as rights of children on food norms at prominent places outside the wall so as to make the scheme more transparent and community responsive. The logo should also be printed on the official stationery. The information on the quantity of food grains received and utilised, daily menu, number of children given mid day meal, roster of community members involved should also be displayed prominently in the school.

In order to create awareness amongst community and other stakeholders, MDM day and MDM month may be celebrated. It is suggested that 28th November-the day on which Supreme Court passed orders for serving hot and cooked mid day meal, may be declared as MDM Day and November be celebrated as MDM month.

Children should also be sensitised about the importance of hand washing before taking meal, cleanliness, and hygiene. The stakeholders should also be involved in these activities and taking out rallies on MDM so as to inculcate among them a sense of belonging to the scheme. Adequate advertisement and publicity may also be arranged for this purpose through intensive media campaigns, distribution of brochure, pamphlets etc.

25. Training and Capacity Building

Cook-cum-helpers need to be trained for preparing hygienic and nutritious meal. The Mission suggests that cook-cum-helpers may be trained through local Home Science Departments of Universities, Hotel Management Institutes, Food Technology Institutes etc in a phased manner to enable them to learn good practices of cooking. Similarly, other personnel associated with the implementation of the scheme should also be trained for upgrading their skills and enhancing their professional efficiency.

26. Grievance Redressal Mechanism

The State Govt. has informed that they have set up a 24 hour help line at telephone no. 0172-6541673 at the State level and complaints received are dealt with at the Head Office, District Office or Schools immediately. School Heads inform Head Office directly at telephone no. 0172-2600119 if they get any problem regarding mid-day-meal. However, the

Review Mission was unable to notice the existence of Grievance Redressal mechanism. None of the visited schools has suggestion box, complaint register etc.

The Mission recommends that the Monitoring and Grievance Redressal mechanism may be set up to grass root levels in order to address the genuine complaints of all stakeholders etc and to make the scheme more responsive to the stakeholders. The mission also recommends that the toll free no. needs to be displayed widely.

27. Analysis of the performance of the Scheme in the visited Districts

- i) Beneficiaries of Mid Day Meal Scheme during last ten days from the date of visit are given at **Annexure-II**.
- ii) The list of schools indicating availability of infrastructure and other facilities in the schools visited by the Review Mission is given at **Annexure-III**.
- iii). Summary of the findings is given at **Annexure-IV**.

28. Hurdles to overcome

Some of the major problems are as under:

- i) Engagement of retired personnel under MDMS,
- ii) Delay in release of funds
- iii) Improper dissemination of information to the field functionaries
- iv) Menu to provide nutritional and calorific value,
- v) Display of information and logo,
- vi) Lack of proper Management Information System (MIS)
- vii) Release of funds to NCLP schools,
- viii) Constraint in supply of fuel,
- ix) Lack of social audit,

29. Recommendations of the Review Mission :

i) Setting up of Management Structure at State, Districts, Sub-districts levels:

- a) Setting up of structure as proposed by Review Mission
- b) Filling up of posts on deputation/contractual basis.
- c) Providing mobility facilities to the officers at various levels.
- d) Provision of CUG mobile connection etc to the officials

ii) Financial Management

- a) Rationalization of fund flow by reducing the intermediate levels – District.
- b) Release of funds to NCLP schools by DEEO directly.
- c) Utilization of interest accrued on MDM grant.
- d) Timely availability of funds to the schools,
- e) Release of honorarium to CCH directly through bank account.

iii) Enhancement of Contract Fee to Assistant Block Managers (ABM)

To be made at par with SSA.

iv) Strengthening of monitoring

- a) Use of the Management Information System (MDM MIS) launched by MHRD
- b) Exposure visit - Inter-State exposure visits for officials of State Governments should be mandated to enable them to learn best practices on MDM followed in other States.
- c) Inspections by the officials- Considering that the scheme is not properly monitored at State level, specific goals may be assigned to DEEO, BEEO, District Managers and Assistant Block Managers etc., for making surprise inspections of the schools. At least 25% schools under their jurisdiction may be inspected by these functionaries during each quarter. The copy of their inspection report may be submitted to the Director General, School Education, Govt. of Punjab
- d) Evaluation Study: A research study to understand the current practices in the area of quality and equity is undertaken for developing State Plans which encompass significant milestones and indicators. A reputed institute may be engaged within six months of engaging them to evaluate the scheme and submit the report to Govt. of Punjab and Government of India.

- e) Setting up of State Review Mission to review the Scheme in a district on bi-monthly basis.
- f) Introduction of social audit mechanism of the Scheme.

v) Capacity Building and Training -

The Review Mission recommends the following for capacity building of the stakeholders:

- a) Periodic feedback may be obtained from the stakeholders and other concerned officials/teachers who are engaged at the grass root level.
- b) Awareness and sensitisation of all the stakeholders and officials is also must.
- c) Periodic orientation of teachers, Assistant Block Managers, Managers, DEEO and BEEOs for proper management and maintenance of accounts and other registers is also very important.
- d) **Community Mobilisation** - Community mobilisation efforts need to undergo a qualitative shift by taking RTE norms into consideration whereby communities are also empowered to monitor the implementation of mid-day-meal scheme. In this context, the SMC training needs to be very different from the usual training for VEC in the past and the training module need to be conceptualized comprehensively. This training of SMC should also reflect specific needs and concerns of mid- day-meal scheme. The Mission recommends that Department of Education and SPD, SSA may include SMC training module for Mid Day Meal scheme also in the training module of SMC. The training guideline for school based cooking should be different from the centralised kitchens. The campaign for Shiksha Ka Haq launched by Ministry of HRD on 11th November, 2011 on Education Day, may be utilised as a platform for MDM to generate awareness on entitlements of children and other rights under MDM Scheme.
- e) **Use of distance learning method** - The RM noted that distance education is a necessary mode for overcoming capacity building and training to functionaries of the mid-day-meal including cook-cum-helpers. The Mission recommends that the State should utilize EDUSAT facility available at schools to impart training to the stakeholders
- f) Training module and material for imparting training to functionaries at various levels and cook-cum-helpers may be organized in consultation with corporate bodies under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- g) The curriculum for source books for primary and upper primary levels is prepared by NCERT. The States should now ensure that a chapter on mid-day meal scheme is included in the text books of all classes of elementary school.

vi) Convergence -

- a) Improved hygienic practices through education in terms of hand-washing, safe drinking water etc. This will enhance the health benefits of this scheme.
- b) Regular health check up and supply of IFA tablets, Vitamin A, De-worming tablets and spectacles in convergence with School Health Programme of NRHM.
- c) Construction of dining hall in convergence with MPLAD Scheme.
- d) Construction of kitchen-cum-store in new schools under SSA.
- e) Maintenance of kitchen-cum-store from maintenance grant under SSA.

vii) Publicity

- a) Observance of MDM Day and MDM Month.
- b) Adequate advocacy of the scheme with use of an IEC campaign in the State to highlight the scheme, its norms so as to bring in a component of community ownership of the scheme. The audio and video of an ideal MDM session in a school should be developed by the UNICEF for the State.
- c) MDM logo should also be exhibited prominently in the school.
- d) The rights and entitlement of children and daily menu should be displayed prominently on the outside wall of the schools.
- e) Utilisation of benefits of Shiksha Ka Haq Abhiyan launched by Ministry of HRD.
- f) The best performing school at block, district and State level must be awarded.



viii) Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM)

- a) Setting up of GRM at various levels.
- b) Suggestion box / complaint register should be kept at a convenient place in the school to enable the visitors to give their suggestion and views for improving the scheme.

- c) A toll free number may be installed for lodging complaints and giving suggestions and it may be widely publicized.
- d) Use of MIS system in online registration of complaints of the stakeholders and its redressal.

(Jatinder Grover)	(Dr.R.S.Ghuman)	(K.S.Pannu)	(Gaya Prasad)
MI, Punjab University	Representative of Hon'ble Supreme Court	Director General School Education Govt. of Punjab	Director, MHRD, GOI

Date: 10.10.2012

Place: Amritsar, Punjab

Terms of Reference of Review Mission

- (i) Review the system of fund flow from State Government to Schools/cooking agency and the time taken in this process.
 - (ii) Review the management and monitoring of the scheme from State to School level.
 - (iii) Review the implementation of the scheme with reference to availability of food grains, quality of MDM, regularity in serving MDM as per approved norms and mode of cooking.
 - (iv) Role of Teachers,
 - (v) Convergence with School Health Programme (SHP) for supplementation of micronutrients and health checkups and supply of spectacles to children suffering from refractive errors.
 - (vi) Creation of capital assets through kitchen-cum-store/kitchen devices
 - (vii) Appointment of Cook-cum-Helpers for preparation and serving of meal to the children
 - (viii) Availability of dedicated staff for MDM at various levels
 - (ix) Review the maintenance of records at the level of school/cooking agency.
 - (x) Review the availability of infrastructure, its adequacy and source of funding.
 - (xi) Review of payment of cost of foodgrains to FCI by the districts
 - (xii) Review the involvement of NGOs/Trust/Centralized kitchens by States/UTs Government in implementation of the Scheme.
 - (xiii) Management Information System (MIS) from school to block, district and State Level to collect the information and disseminate it to other stakeholders
 - (xiv) Assess the involvement of Community' in implementation of MDM scheme
- and give suggestions for improvement in the implementation of the programme.

Annexure-II**School wise availability of infrastructure**

District	Block	Name of the School	Kitchen -cum- store	Kitchen Devices	Drinking Water	Toilet	Fire Extinguisher	Fuel	Health check up	Payment to Cook-cum-helper during 2012-13
Pathankot	Pathankot-1	Govt. High School, Panjore	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	Up to August, 2012
	Pathankot-2	Govt. High School, BaniLodhij	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	/Gas/Wood	Y	
	Pathankot-2	Govt, Sr. Sec School, Bhoa	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	NarotJaimal Singh	Govt High School, Kathlour	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	Pathankot-2	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Tungoshah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	Dhar-2	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Jandwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	Dhar-2	Govt. Elementary school, Jandwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	Dhar – 1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, DharKalan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	
	Dhar – 1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Dunera	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/Wood	Y	

District	Block	Name of the School	Kitchen -cum- store	Kitchen Devices	Drinking Water	Toilet	Fire Extinguisher	Fuel	Health check up	Payment to Cook-cum-helper during 2012-13
	Dhar -1	Govt. Elementary school, Jandwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Dhar – 2	Govt. Elementary school, MadhopurCantt	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Dhar - 2	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Madhopur	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Pathankot – 1	Govt. Elementary School, Madhopur	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Pathankot – 3	Govt. Elementary School, Dehriwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Pathankot – 1	Govt. Middle School, Dehriwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
Amritsar	Ajnala - 1	Govt. Middle School, HaradKhurd	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala – 1	Govt. Elementary School, HaradKalan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala-1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school (Girls), Ajnala	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala-1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school (Boys), Ajnala	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Tarsika	Govt. Elementary School, Mattewal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Tarsika	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Mattewal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	

District	Block	Name of the School	Kitchen-cum-store	Kitchen Devices	Drinking Water	Toilet	Fire Extinguisher	Fuel	Health check up	Payment to Cook-cum-helper during 2012-13
	Majeetha- 2	Govt. Elementary School, KotliDholesah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Majeetha-2	Govt. Elementary School, KotliDholesah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Majeetha-2	Govt. Elementary School, Leherka	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Majeetha-2	Govt. Middle School, Leherka	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Tarsika	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Tahli Sahib	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Verka	Govt. Elementary School, Kala	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Verka	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Gumanpuri	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Amritsar-1	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Sultanwind	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Verka	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, FatehgarhSukrachak	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Amritsar-2	Govt. Elementary School, Makhanwadi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Amritsar	NCLP school, Globe Tech Career, Sultan Wind								

District	Block	Name of the School	Kitchen -cum- store	Kitchen Devices	Drinking Water	Toilet	Fire Extinguisher	Fuel	Health check up	Payment to Cook-cum-helper during 2012-13
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Ballarwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Elementary School, Ballarwal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Zafarkot	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Elementary School, Zafarkot	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Gas/ Wood	Y	

Annexure-III**School wise details of Attendance of last ten days**

District	Block	Name of the School	Enrolment	Attendance of last ten days										Avg.	% availed vs. Enrolment
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Pathankot	Pathankot-1	Govt. High School, Panjore	265	201	201	200	200	203	203	203	194	195	192	199	75%
	Pathankot-2	Govt. High School, BaniLodhij	212	211	211	213	212	212	212	211	207	202	202	209	99%
	Pathankot-2	Govt, Sr. Sec School, Bhoa	295	295	295	296	294	296	295	275	275	278	282	288	98%
	NarotJaimal Singh	Govt High School, Kathlour	201	196	196	196	198	196	196	170	179	173	195	190	95%
	Pathankot-2	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Tungoshah	158	158	158	158	156	156	156	156	142	150	142	153	97%
	Dhar-2	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Jandwal	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	101	109	110	109	99%
	Dhar-2	Govt. Elementary school, Jandwal	51	41	48	50	50	40	50	50	50	50	50	48	94%
	Dhar – 1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school,	137	135	136	136	136	137	136	136	136	128	125	125	133

District	Block	Name of the School	Enrolment	Attendance of last ten days										Avg.	% availed vs. Enrolment
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
		DharKalan													
	Dhar – 1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Dunera	109	103	103	104	104	103	103	101	94	99	96	101	93%
	Dhar – 2	Govt. Elementary school, MadhopurCantt	40	37	34	40	32	40	40	40	40	40	40	38	95%
	Dhar - 2	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Madhopur	239	236	236	236	237	237	237	236	202	206	207	227	95%
	Pathankot – 1	Govt. Elementary School, Madhopur	140	137	137	137	131	127	123	129	128	124	123	129	92%
	Pathankot – 3	Govt. Elementary School, Dehriwal	82	80	83	74	82	83	79	78	80	80	79	80	98%
	Pathankot – 1	Govt. Middle School, Dehriwal	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89	86	83	88	99%
Amritsar	Ajnala - 1	Govt. Middle School, HaradKhurd	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	99	102	99%
	Ajnala – 1	Govt. Elementary School, HaradKalan	152	115	131	142	144	143	142	141	136	137	140	137	90%
	Ajnala-1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school (Girls),	363	206	160	329	343	342	339	343	345	345	345	310	85%

District	Block	Name of the School	Enrolment	Attendance of last ten days										Avg.	% availed vs. Enrolment
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	Ajnala														
	Ajnala-1	Govt. Sr. Sec. school (Boys), Ajnala	257	126	107	216	235	239	235	238	235	231	232	209	81%
	Tarsika	Govt. Sr. Sec. school, Mattewal	215	133	204	204	204	204	204	203	203	204	169	193	90%
	Majeetha -2	Govt. Elementary School, KotliDholeshah	95	91	91	90	90	91	90	87	89	88	88	89	94%
	Majeetha -2	Govt. Elementary School, KotliDholeshah	112	90	96	98	97	94	94	94	86	94	71	91	81%
	Majeetha -2	Govt. Elementary School, Leherka	78	62	67	71	75	75	74	74	67	71	68	70	90%
	Majeetha -2	Govt. Middle School, Leherka	46	36	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	35	43	93%
	Tarsika	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Tahli Sahib	203	111	197	194	196	196	198	197	196	198	139	182	90%
	Verka	Govt. Elementary School, Kala	418	376	382	374	383	392	398	390	387	388	381	385	92%

District	Block	Name of the School	Enrolment	Attendance of last ten days										Avg.	% availed vs. Enrolment
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	Verka	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Gumanpuri	155	150	151	152	151	151	152	152	151	135	119	146	94%
	Verka	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, FatehgarhSu krachak	244	213	243	244	243	244	244	244	244	244	244	241	99%
	Amritsar-2	Govt. Elementary School, Makhanwadi	209	182	182	188	186	186	183	190	190	178	184	185	89%
	Amritsar	NCLP school, Globe Tech Career, Sultan Wind	50	35	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Ballarwal	437	388	415	415	417	417	417	416	416	415	416	413	95%
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Elementary School, Ballarwal	399	360	357	365	345	360	364	361	358	361	355	359	90%
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Zafarkot	281	277	277	277	277	277	275	275	275	275	252	274	98%
	Ajnala-2	Govt. Elementary School, Zafarkot	131	116	118	119	111	111	116	118	115	118	117	116	89%

Summary of findings pertaining to all the visited schools

- i) None of the schools displayed food norms and logo of MDM. in fact no school was aware of the MDM logo.
- ii) Majority of the schools maintained MDM and stock register.
- iii) Stock verification was only by school incharge/school head.
- iv) No school has separate inspection register, they only showed visitor book.
- v) School Management Committees (SMCs) were recently constituted and the periodicity of the meetings of SMC was not as per norms.
- vi) One of the members of SMC is from the elected representative from the local bodies, such as Panchayat or municipality.
- vii) Almost all the present students opted for MDM and all of them were served MDM during all the working days.
- viii) In spite of the delay in grant for months together, no school discontinued with the MDM.
- ix) In the absence of grant, the school teachers and the Panchayats contributed for continuation of MDM.
- x) Credit line with the local karyana shops also helped the continuation of the scheme.
- xi) All the schools had a pre-determined menu for every day of the week.
- xii) The vegetables were cooked and served only once a week whereas it should have been served daily.
- xiii) Almost in all the schools teacher-incharge or other teacher (s) tastes the food daily.
- xiv) The quantity of meals seemed to be adequate and quality is just average.
- xv) Though most of the schools had constructed kitchen yet majority of the kitchen rooms did not have ventilation.
- xvi) Hardly any school had proper dining space and meals were served in verandas of the schools, the dining space does not have any dining table.
- xvii) Most of the teacher-incharges of MDM and the school heads are taking a reasonable level of interest in running the scheme.
- xviii) Every school has arrangement of potable water but quality needs to be periodically checked.

- xix) Almost all the schools have separate toilets for girls and boys but keeping in view the number of students their number is grossly inadequate.
- xx) The cleanliness in the toilets is of miserable condition in almost all the schools. Even supply of water in the toilets is not proper. In one school there was no separate toilet for girls. They shared the toilet with the teachers.
- xxi) No school has complaints/grievance register.
- xxii) Toll free Telephone number for public grievances is also not available in any school.
- xxiii) Monitoring of MDM scheme is almost missing. Rarely any state government official had any monitoring or inspection.
- xxiv) All the schools use both the Gas and wood for cooking.
- xxv) Most of the schools did not have adequate number of utensils, as they got grant only for 85 per cent of the eligible students.
- xxvi) The amount of cooking cost and honorarium for the cook-cum-helpers often has time lag ranging from 3 to 5 months.
- xxvii) The delivery of gas is not done in the schools. The teacher-incharge has to collect the gas cylinder from a far-off place which cost him/her a full day, besides carrying cost. The problem is more acute in rural areas.
- xxviii) The supply gas cylinders is neither adequate nor regular so all the schools are using wood, alongwith gas.
- xxix) The enhanced price of gas cylinder was a cause of worry for every school.
- xxx) In view of the rising prices of cooking, cost and material the existing cooking cost amount is not sufficient. This was expressed by all the schools.
- xxxi) No school has separate arrangement of sweeper for the MDM scheme.
- xxxii) Almost all the students expressed satisfaction about the quality and quantity of food, perhaps due to the fact that back home they have very little to fall back.
- xxxiii) There is a specific problem in the high schools and the senior secondary schools. The students of 6th to 8th class are being served with MDM but when they join 9th class suddenly they find that they are no more entitled to the MDM. The habit formation of three years period is done away with. It was told by the teachers in many such schools that such students continue to stand and stare when their juniors are being served food. There is a need to address this issue.
- xxxiv) In most of the schools no secretarial assistance is available. They don't have even full time sweeper. The teachers had to do the office work also.

xxxv) There are many misconceptions about the weekly menu. All the schools are cooking and serving vegetables only once a week whereas as per norms vegetables and pulses should be served daily. Again they are under the impression that pulses and vegetables are to be cooked separately. However, some of the vegetables and pulses could be cooked together. The schools are not serving the pulses and vegetables daily. The concept of balanced and nutritional diet is hardly observed. So there is a need to understand the spirit of the scheme.

xxxvi) The presence of students is higher during examination days and lower during normal teaching days.
