MID DAY MEAL SCHEME



STATE OF KERALA

KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS

MID DAY MEAL SCHEME-KERALA-BASIC STATISTICS

TOTAL NO OF SCHOOLS UNDER MDMS - 12327

NO OF CHILDREN BEING FED UNDER MDMS - 2606297

NO OF DISTRICTS - 14

NO OF EDUCATIONAL DISTRICTS - 42

NO OF EDUCATIONAL SUB DISTRICTS (BLOCKS) – 163

NO OF SCHOOLS HAVING KITCHEN GARDENS - 7234

KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS

- Under the aegis of Department of General Education, Department of Agriculture and Local Self Government Institutions, schools both in rural and urban areas have taken up vegetable cultivation in a big way.
- Schools are setting up their own vegetable gardens at school premises using whatever land area available and even encourage students to set up gardens at their homes also.
- Vegetables such as brinjal, okra, tomato, cucumber, pumpkin, snake gourd, bitter gourd, peas, cauli flower, cabbage, spinach etc are grown in kitchen gardens.
- As of now, 7234 schools out of the total number of 12327 have already set up kitchen gardens. Each day, a school joins the list.

KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS

(continued.....)

- Apart from vegetables, fruits such as banana, guava, papaya, etc are also grown in school premises.
- Some schools in Palakkad, Alappuzha, Kollam, and Thiruvananthapuram districts have even taken up paddy cultivation with the help of local farmers. There is a school in Palakkad district where the children had cultivated paddy in an adjacent 5 acres of land taken out on lease.
- Kitchen gardens are being set up in schools under a project named "Vegetable Development Programme" conceived by the Department of Agriculture and implemented through Vegetable & Fruit Promotion Council Kerala (VFPCK).
- Department of Agriculture & Local Self Government Institutions provide funds to schools for setting up infrastructural facilities to implement this programme.

VEGETABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (INTEGRATED VEGETABLE CULTIVATION PROGRAMME)

OBJECTIVES and AIM:-

- Attain self sufficiency in vegetable production and persuade children to consume good, quality vegetables free from poisonous pesticides.
- Create awareness among children about agriculture and train them in various agricultural practices.
- To develop skills in farming, crop-pest management, soil management techniques, irrigation and bio-waste management.

AIM:-

To cultivate in at least 6000 hectares of land available in schools and households that would result in the production of approximately 72,000 tonnes of annually.

-IMPLEMENTATION-

- The Programme came into existence during the year 2012-13.
- Under this programme, seed kits containing high quality vegetable seeds (packet costing Rs.25/-) developed in Government Farms or procured from National Seeds Corporation are distributed to school children free of cost. Leaflets and brochures containing instructions on how to cultivate the vegetables and on organic farming are also given.
- The seed packets are distributed by Vegetable & Fruit Promotion Council Kerala (VFPCK) and Kerala State Seed Development Authority.
- 10 % of the seed kits are distributed to SC/ST students.
- During 2016-17, 10 lakh seed packets were distributed to as much number of school children.

-IMPLEMENTATION- (contd.....)

- The Programme is implemented in schools by student agricultural/nature/ eco clubs.
- An amount of Rs.3500/- is given to schools to form school agricultural clubs. An amount of 7340 lakhs was set apart for the Programme during the year 2016-17.
- Local agriculture Officer is the implementing authority of the Programme at the panchayath level. He visits schools and explains the Programme to children.
- Instructive DVDs are supplied to schools. Massive training programme was launched in each district for students, teachers, etc.
- In schools, the distribution of seed kits is entrusted to a teacher.
- LSG Institutions conduct periodical review of the Programme and take necessary follow up actions.

-Module of the training Programme-

- * Assessing the type & Size of Kitchen Garden.
- Preparing the Garden Site/Plot for cultivation.
- Selecting vegetable crops for the Garden
- Planting a Garden- whether to start from seeds or saplings.
- Maintaining the Garden
- Watering the Garden regularly
- Applying fertlizers
- Weed control and Organic Farming
- ***** Harvesting.

-Physical Achievement So Far-

- Since its introduction in 2012-13, seed kits were distributed to over 20 lakh children so far.
- The percentage of schools having kitchen gardens have risen tremendously over the years.
- Over 30,000 hectares of land (in schools and houses of children) have been used for vegetable cultivation.

SETTING UP KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS -FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED-

- Department of Agriculture provides an amount of Rs.3500/- to schools for setting up agricultural clubs
- Department of Agriculture provides financial assistance at the rate of Rs.4000/- to those schools having 10 cents of land available for cultivation of vegetables. Functional assistance @ Rs. 1000/- is also provided.
- Department of Agriculture provides an amount of Rs.10,000/- each to schools for setting up irrigation units.

POULTRY REARING IN SCHOOLS

- Several schools in the State are found to have set up poultry farms.
- Kerala State Poultry Development Corporation (KEPCO), an agency under Department of Animal Husbandry launched an innovative programme in 2011 whereby five pullets, 3 kg chicken feed and medicine are given to each child free of cost.
- Since its launch in 2011, the programme has been able to cover 107556 children so far.

























































THANK YOU

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

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