

राजर्षी भट्टाचार्य
Rajarshi Bhattacharya
 सचिव
 Secretary
 Tel. : 23382587, 23381104
 Fax : 23387859
 E-mail : secy.sel@nic.in



भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
नई दिल्ली - 110 001

Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
124 'C' Wing, Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi - 110 001
 July 28, 2014

Dear Secretary,

As you are aware that Community participation is key to the successful implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme as it ensures effective monitoring at the local level and also generates a sense of ownership of the programme in the community. The MDM Guidelines, therefore, envisage that the community members and teachers should ensure that children eat mid day meals together in an orderly manner in a spirit of camaraderie.

2. In this regard, we share the following best practices in the implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme in various States:

- i) Public participation through 'Tithi Bhojan'; distribution of spectacles to more than 2 lakh children under School Health Programme in **Gujarat**.
- ii) Ama Madhyan Bhojan Rasoi Ghar model kitchens in schools in **Odisha**.
- iii) Involvement of *Saraswati Vahini* (mother's association) in cooking and effective delivery of MDM in **Jharkhand**.
- iv) Serving of MDM by Women Self Help Groups in rural areas in **Chhattisgarh**.
- v) Mothers are engaged as Bhojan Mata and Sahayika in schools of **Uttarakhand**.
- vi) Construction of dining halls and kitchen garden in schools of **Tripura**.
- vii) Supply of Agmark quality ingredients and different varieties of pulses; direct transfer of honorarium to cooks in their accounts in **Maharashtra**.
- viii) Kitchen Garden in the school premises in States viz. **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, West Bengal and Mizoram**.
- ix) Green Channel Scheme for pre-positioning of funds and Social Auditing of the MDM Scheme in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- x) Hand washing before and after meals in **Assam**.
- xi) Dovetailing untied funds of Gram Panchayat etc. for construction of kitchen-cum-stores in **Rajasthan**.
- xii) Serving of eggs to all the children on all school days and variety meal introduced on pilot basis in **Tamil Nadu**.
- xiii) Real time monitoring of the Scheme through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) in **Uttar Pradesh and Bihar**.
- xiv) Mothers' roster at school level for monitoring the quality of the meals provided to the children in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- xv) Procurement of cooking ingredients by School Management Committee in **Sikkim**.

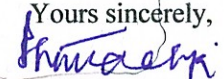
3. Further, I would like to reiterate that the MDM Guidelines provide that the menu of the meals be decided locally keeping in view the availability of ingredients/food items. However, there have been some reports that repetitive menus are not being liked by children.

4. I would, therefore, appreciate if you could kindly look into the matter, learn from the good practices, take steps to improve community participation in Mid Day Meal Scheme and design the menu with variety and according to the taste and liking of children.

With regards,

ofc

ISSUED

Yours sincerely,

 (Rajarshi Bhattacharya)

To Secretary (Edn). of all States/UTs
 [As per list attached]