

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Programme Approval Board for Mid-Day Meal

28.02.08

1. A meeting of the Programme Approval Board for Mid-Day Meal was held at New Delhi on 28.02.08 under the Chairpersonship of Shri A.K. Rath, Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy (SE&L), Government of India. The agenda before the PAB was to review the status and progress of the implementation of the Mid Day Meal programme for the States of **Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand** and to consider their proposals for the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2008-09. A list of members who participated in the meeting is attached at **Annexure-I**.
2. Shri A.K. Rath, Secretary (SE&L) welcomed the participants. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the following key areas in the implementation of Mid Day Meal programme.
 - i) Considering the magnitude and complexity of the Mid Day Meal Scheme, monitoring of implementation at every level is very vital and important. The States/UTs must evolve efficient and effective systems of monitoring.
 - ii) In some States/UTs there is considerable mismatch in the utilisation of foodgrains and cooking cost. This is a serious cause for concern, which also creates doubt about the effective implementation of the programme. There is also significant mismatch in the coverage, attendance and enrollment of children. There is need to clearly differentiate enrollment, attendance and number of children availing Mid Day Meal. The tendency to inflate and report higher enrollments in the education sector should be curbed since it causes financial loss and clearly gives room for malpractices. There should be judicious use of resources under the Mid Day Meal scheme.
 - iii) All participating States should focus on the institutional arrangements for monitoring; how effectively they are functioning, and whether local bodies like PRIs, SHGs and are involved in monitoring at the grass root level.
3. Smt. Anita Kaul, Joint Secretary (EE-I), briefly traced the various stages of progress in extending the scope and coverage of the programme from supply of dry ration in 1995 to cooked mid-day meal in 2004-05 and its extension to the upper primary stage in EBBs in 2007-08. MDM Guidelines prescribe the nutritional content of meal as 450 calories/12 grams of protein for primary and 700 cal/20 grams of protein. Central Govt. provides cooking cost @ Rs. 1.50 per child per day for primary and Rs. 2.00 for upper primary. Even though the Guidelines prescribe supply of micro nutrient supplements and deworming medicines, they are actually supplied in convergence with State Health Departments through National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). In fact, as many as 21 State have incorporated School Health Plan in their Annual Plan 2008-09 under NRHM.

Considering the fact that this programme provides hot cooked nutritious meal to 12 crore children in 9.5 lakhs schools every day, it involves huge logistic arrangements. There are several issues of concern to improve the implementation of the scheme. State wise issues have been identified and presented in the Appraisal Notes circulated to State Secretaries participating in the meeting for paying special attention to them.

She also highlighted the important aspects of fostering gender and social equality under MDM Scheme. She also informed the participants that National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) has undertaken the project of documenting best practices in implementation of MDM Scheme and requested the State representatives to render necessary assistance to Dr. Pramila Menon of NUEPA who is coordinating the documentation of best practices on behalf of NUEPA.

4. Shri. S.K. Ray, Joint Secretary-Financial Advisor, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India stated that there is enormous delay in fund flow from State level to School level mainly due to non-provision of budgetary allocations in the State Budgets. He requested the States to take immediate steps to make suitable provisions in the State Budget 2008-09 in respect of (i) Reimbursement of various components of Central Assistance, including cooking costs, transportation grants, MME, construction of kitchen sheds and procurement of cooking devices, and (ii) minimum mandatory contribution towards cooking cost. He stated that States/ UTs should inform the Department of School Education and Literacy, MHRD, about the budgetary provisions made for the year 2008-09. He stated that the releases under MDM Scheme for the year 2008-09 will be contingent upon States making adequate provisions in the State budget. He also insisted that States should immediately put in operation a robust MIS system to capture the data from school level on enrollment, number of children availing Mid Day Meal, number of meals served and utilization of resources under the Scheme and furnish these information regularly to the Govt. of India to effectively monitor optimum utilization of resources under MDM Scheme.
5. With these preliminary interventions, Shri A.K. Rath, Secretary, SE&L invited the State representatives to make their presentations on the AWP&B for 2008-09.

UTTARAKHAND

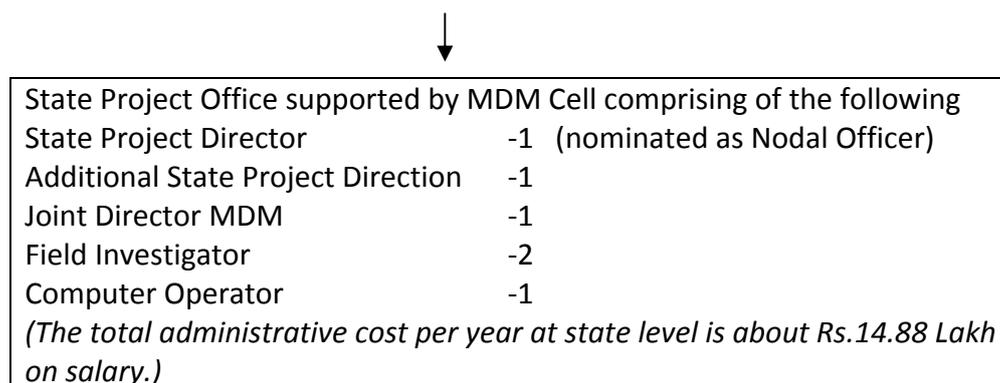
6. Dr. (Ms.) Bhupinder Kaur Aulakh, Additional Secretary and ex-officio State Project Director (SSA), Government of Uttarakhand made a power point presentation on the MDM Annual Work Plan & Budget 2008-09. The salient features of the presentation are summarized as under:-
 - i. Govt of Uttarakhand had started the scheme from Sahaspur block of Dehradun district in the year 2001-02. From 2003-04, all primary schools, aided primary schools, EGS/AIE centres were covered. At present, 7,37,712 children are studying in 13,358 primary schools, EGS/AIE centres. From January 2008, the State has extended the MDM scheme to the 1100 upper primary schools with an enrolment of 97,254 in 21 Educationally Backward Blocks(EEBs)

ii. Nutrition: The nutritional status of children under age-3 as per NFHS-3 is as follows:

Infant Mortality	=	67 per 1000 in last 5 years
Under weight	=	42%
Stunted	=	47%
Wasted	=	8%
Anemic	=	62%

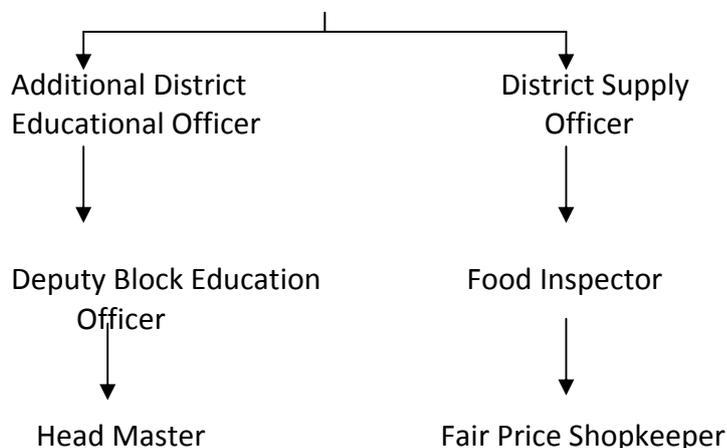
iii. Management: The State has following administrative structure:

School Education Department, Govt of Uttarakhand (State Nodal Department)



↓

District Magistrate (nominated nodal officer for the district)



iv. Implementation: (a) The State has appointed Bhojan Mata/Sahayika for cooking and serving the Mid Day Meal. The Bhojan Mata is the mother of one of the children enrolled in same school belonging to BPL community of the same village selected by VEC or SMC, as the case may be. At present 15,110 Bhojan Matas and Sahayikas are involved in implementing the Mid Day Meal Scheme at the primary stage. The Bhojan Matas and Sahayikas are paid honorarium, calculated on the basis of the number of children in the School. An honorarium of Rs.250 is paid to Bhojan Mata/Sahayika for schools with children up to 25 children, Rs.350 for schools with

26-50 children, Rs.450 for 50-100 children. One extra Sahayika is appointed in schools with children more than 100 and paid Rs.250.

(b) Foodgrain is stored in schools in grain bins procured under PMGY. Two kinds of registers are maintained for keeping records: one for enrollment and attendance and the second for food utilization and expenditure.

(c) The State provides orientation training to community members, teachers and officers on the Mid Day Meal scheme. With the help of nutritionists/experts the State Government has prepared a "Vyanjan Pustika" containing guidelines on conversion of food with the break up of cost and calories. Those implementing the Mid Day Meal scheme are expected to follow these guidelines. The State also provides additional nutrition like fruits, eggs or other locally available item at the cost of 0.50 per child per day.

(d) Parents particularly mothers are involved in monitoring the programme. State has converted utensils and grain bins into teaching learning materials and has utilized these items for teaching children about calorific value, cleanliness, hygiene and other area of learning.

(e) State has appointed Block Education Officer, District Education Officer, District Magistrate and SPD at State level for monitoring the Mid Day Meal Programme.

v. Fortification: A pilot project on fortification has been initiated in Tehri District with financial assistance from World Food Programme. The cost of fortification works out to Rs. 0.10 per child/ day. One spoon of "India-mix" comprising vitamins, folic acid, zinc soybeans and other nutrients are added to dal.

vi. Foodgrains management: The State Government distributes free foodgrains from the nearest FCI godown to the districts as per their demand. The Regional Food Corporation transports foodgrains from FCI godown to different district godowns. District Supply Officers (DSOs) are responsible for collection of food grains from the FCI godown, arranging transportation of food grain and distribution through Fair Price Shop to primary schools. The Foodgrains flow chart is as under:

FCI → RFC → Fair Price Shop → School

vii. Fund flow: The State Govt makes budget provision in the annual budget. Funds are released to the Education Department, which transfers the funds, through State Project Directorate, to different districts. Funds for cooking and convergence are provided to Additional District Education Officer at District level. Additional District Education Officer (ADEO) transfers the money to the respective bank accounts of the schools. At school level, joint accounts are maintained. The joint account is operated by Head Teacher and Gram Pradhan of the village at present but from the year 2008-09 and onwards, the joint account will be operated by Head Teacher and SMC President.

viii. System for procuring cooking ingredients: Till now, the school headmaster was responsible for procuring the oil, condiments, and fuel on a weekly basis. The head master of the school also maintained the ledger/vouchers. State Government has now revised its policy and the SMC will be made responsible for implementing MDM. The joint account will be operated by the head teacher and the SMC President. At school the SMC will make arrangements for fuel, condiments, oil etc.

Uttarakhand State is a geographically hilly area; the prices/local rates of ingredients are different in different regions. The average cooking cost per child per school day is as follows:-

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost (PY)</u>	<u>Cost (U PY)</u>
i.	Rice	Free	Free
ii.	Dal, Veg, Oil, Salt and Fuel	2.00	2.50
iii.	Additional nutrition	0.50	-
iv.	Labour charge	0.40	0.40
v.	Transportation charge	0.20	0.20
	Total	3.10	3.10

ix. State budget provisions: For the year 2007-08, the State had made budget provision of Rs. 5548.68 lakhs i.e. (i) Rs. 3364.41 lakhs towards reimbursement of Central assistance and (ii) Rs. 2184.27 towards State contribution. Budgetary provisions for the year 2008-09 will be intimated as soon as the State Budget is passed in the State Legislature.

- 6.1 With this Chairperson, Secretary (SE&L), invited the PAB members to make their comments:
- 6.2 Shri. S.K. Ray, FA, MHRD, expressed serious concern about the non-release of Central Assistance towards construction of kitchen sheds and procurement of kitchen devices (Rs. 25.27 crores released by Gol in November, 2006) by the State Government even after lapse of one year. He stated that progress in the construction of kitchen sheds and procurement of kitchen devices will seriously affect the quality of the programme.
- 6.3 Dr. T. Sundararaman, Executive Director, National Health System Resource Centre, National Rural Health Mission, New Delhi expressed interest in the fortification programme initiated by the State Government with support from WFP and requested the State Representative to provide a sample of the "India-mix" powder, so that its properties could be studied.
- 6.4 Ms. Poonam Singh, Consultant, NIAR, the Monitoring Institute for the State of Uttarakhand stated that she had visited 4 districts to monitor implementation of MDM scheme. Barring Narson Block, Haridwar district, where the Mid Day Meal was not being provided in May, June 2007, implementation in all other districts was satisfactory. However, the actual number of children availing Mid Day Meal is often

10-15 percent less than the enrollment figures shown in the school records. She stated that a large number of Bhojan Matas have been appointed under the Scheme. The programme has very good community support and the overall position was satisfactory. She added, however, that in several places children tend to leave school soon after taking Mid Day Meal.

- 6.5 Secretary (SE&L) observed that children leaving the school immediately after the mid day meal, without participating in the afternoon schedule, is a serious issue and the State Government should take remedial action. Smt Bhupinder Aulakh stated that these are children from marginalized sections of the society, who have been enrolled after great efforts by the State Government and action is being taken to motivate parents to enable children to attend school full time. Secretary (SE&L) also stated that this is much bigger issue which could not be viewed as a MDM problem alone. A multi-pronged strategy should adopted by the State to improve classroom environment so as to make it attractive to children.
- 6.6 Shri Vikram Sahay, Director, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India made an analysis of the State's performance in the implementation of the MDM Scheme for the period 01.04.07 to 31.12.07 and highlighted the following important issues:

- i) **Foodgrains Utilization:** An analysis of the utilization of foodgrains during 2007-08 shows wide variations in inter-district in food grain utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year was over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. However, the State level utilization at primary level was 64%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Total no. of districts = 13

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 65%	5 Districts	Dehradun, Tehri, Nainital, Uttar Kashi and Haridwar.

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) was over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization was 0%.

- ii) **Cooking cost utilisation:** Considering that three-fourths of the year was over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the cooking cost allocation. State level utilization at primary level was 64%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Total no. of districts = 13

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 65%	5 Districts	Dehradun, Tehri, Nainital, Uttar Kashi and Haridwar.

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) were over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the cooking cost allocation. State level utilization was 0%.

- iii) **Utilization of foodgrains Vs cooking cost:** Level of utilisation of food grains and cooking cost during 01.04.07 to 31.12.07 was remarkably uniform in all districts, and is clearly a reflection of the funds released, not utilised.
 - iv) **Construction of Kitchen sheds:** A sum of Rs. 24.98 crores of Central assistance released towards construction of 4164 kitchen sheds during 2006-07 in primary schools. State reported 0% progress in construction of kitchen sheds upto 31.12.07. This is very low; the pace of construction will have to be expedited
 - v) **Procurement of Kitchen devices:** A sum of Rs. 422.00 lakh was released for procurement of kitchen sheds in 8,440 schools during 2006-07. State reported 7% progress in procurement of kitchen devices upto 31.12.07. This is very low; the pace of procurement will have to be expedited
 - vi) **Utilization of MME:** A sum of Rs. 65 lakhs was released as Central Assistance towards MME cost. The State Govt. reported expenditure of Rs. 40 lakhs as on 31.12.07. However, out of this, there is no expenditure for actual "Monitoring & Evaluation" which is a crucial component of MME.
- 6.7 State Govt. was requested to critically review the position, and to take corrective steps on a regular basis wherever large scale discrepancies exist. State Govt. was also requested to send an Action Taken Report to the Govt. of India at the earliest. Dr. Bhupinder Kaur Aulakh, undertook to look into the matter and assured that necessary remedial actions will be taken expeditiously under intimation to Govt. of India.
- 6.8. **MDM-PAB approvals:** After discussion, the number of children (both for primary and Upper-primary) and number of school days was approved by the Board for quantifying the Central assistance for Uttarakhand for the Mid Day Meal for 2008-09 at the existing norms, which was as under:-

No.	Details	Approved by MDM-PAB
1	No. of Children availing MDM	
	Primary	
1.1	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	6,92,035
1.2	EGS	33,659
1.3	AIE	5,411
	TOTAL	7,31,105
	Upper Primary	
1.4	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	3,86,893
1.5	EGS	6,450
1.6	AIE	101
	TOTAL	3,93,444
2	No. of Working days	
2.1	Primary	203
2.2	Upper Primary	203

7. ANDHRA PRADESH:

7.1 Dr. C.B.S. Venkataramana, Principle Secretary, School Education, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh made a power point presentation on the MDM Annual Work Plan & Budget 2008-09. Salient features of the presentation are summarized as under:-

i) In Andhra Pradesh, Mandal is the Sub-District unit of administration. 1/4th of blocks is a Mandal which roughly covers 50 habitations each. There are 1130 Mandals in Andhra Pradesh. The MDM Scheme reaches out to 68,200 primary schools and 14,024 upper primary schools in EBBs, including EGS/AIE centres. 50.73 lakh children at primary and 18.14 children at upper primary are availing the Mid Day Meal.

ii) The nutritional value of the meal is 480 calories and 13 grams of protein. Rice is issued at the rate of 120-150 grams per child per day. Eggs/bananas are served twice a week.

iii) The unit cost of meal is Rs. 2.50 per child/ day in the case of schools with less than 50 children, Rs. 2.25 in the case of schools 51-100 children and Rs. 2.00 in the case of schools with 101+ children.

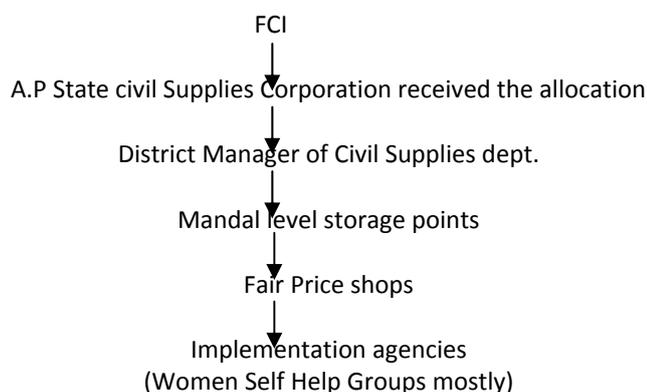
iv) The Scheme is implemented at school level through Self Help Groups – Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWACRA), Reputed NGOs, Charitable trusts and School Management Committees.

v) The extent of involvement of NGOs are as under:

Areas	Agency	No. of schools covered	No. of children covered.
Hyderabad & Secunderabad	Naandi Foundation	905	97,368
Vishakapatnam (Urban)	Naandi Foundation	110	37,555
Tirupathi	ISKCON	78	11,642
Tadipatri	Sri Narayana Reddy	26	2,970
	TOTAL	1,151	2,18,639

vi) The development of kitchen gardens is encouraged at school premises wherever feasible. The produce is used in the preparation of the meal.

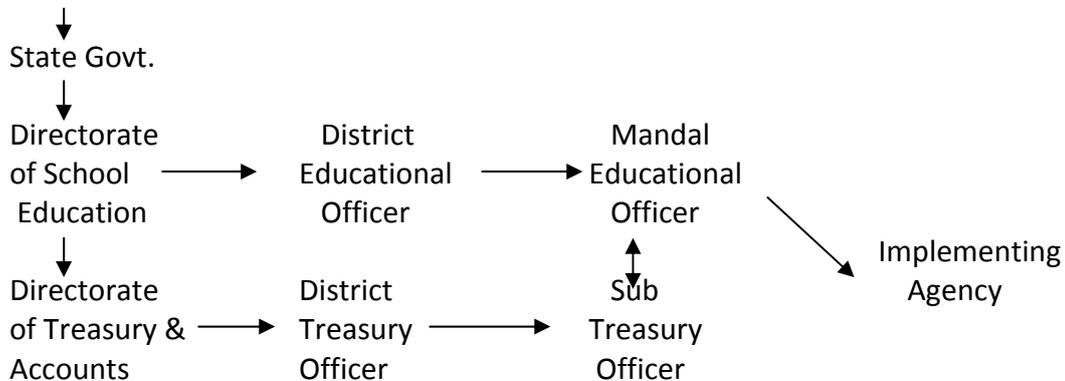
vii) Supply chain of food grains in Andhra Pradesh is as under:-



viii) **Mechanism for flow of funds:** Institutional arrangements for cooking material supply and conversion:

Mechanism for budget releases for conversion costs

Govt. of India



ix) **Monitoring:** Various Committees have been constituted at State Level, District Level, Municipal and Municipal Corporation Level, Mandal Level, Panchayat Level and School level for monitoring and supervision of the implementation of the scheme. Additional Director of School Education (MDM), District Educational Officers, Mandal Officers have been visiting the schools and causing supervision and inspection on the quality and quantity of the food grains, attendance and indent of rice, cleanliness of utensils and surroundings of the entire kitchen sheds, drinking water facilities etc. The Director, SPIU of Education Department have taken up social audit with technical support from MV Foundation (NGO), APARD, Centre for Good Governance etc. Mothers Committees have been formed in schools where Mid Day Meal is under implementation to ensure preparation of meal is prepared in hygienic condition, cleanliness of cooking and serving areas and ensuring the quality and quantity aspect of the meal. Various measures have been taken to rectify inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost, the delay in delivering cooking cost to schools.

x) **Evaluation:** National Institute of Rural Development is the Monitoring Institute for Andhra Pradesh. It has visited 5 districts (Adilabad, Mahabubnagar, Murnool, Prakasham and Vizianagram) during 2007, and has given the following findings:

- a) 98.7% schools were found to be serving hot food
- b) 63.7% schools serve the same menu (rice, dal, sambar, khichdi)
- c) 88.4% schools were providing green vegetables.
- d) Overall satisfaction level on quality and quantity was appreciated.
- e) In 56% schools, cooks were from under privileged social communities from the respective villages, majority were women.
- f) In 56.3% schools payment to cooks was quite regular in the other schools the frequency of payment was not regular.
- g) In 83.7% schools there was no discrimination in serving MDM on the basis of gender, caste and class.

xi). Dr. C.B.S. Venkataramana, Principle Secretary, State Education Dept, sought permission of Govt. of India to recruit adequate manpower to effectively implement the Scheme. Secretary (SE&L), clarified that there should not be any permanent recruitment creating pensionary liabilities. The State is free to recruit persons in accordance with the parameters stipulated towards MME costs in the MDM Guidelines. With this the Secretary (SE&L) invited the PAB members to make their comments:

- 7.2. Smt. Rama Baru, Associate Professor, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, JNU, New Delhi observed that in Andhra Pradesh, many religious bodies are operating centralized kitchens under MDM Scheme. She stated there is need to address the perception of minorities covered by such arrangements under the MDM Scheme. In 6 districts of Andhra Pradesh, there is substantial population of minority communities. Hence she requested the State Govt. to conduct independent evaluation study to assess the social dynamics among children availing MDM Scheme through such centralized facilities.
- 7.3 Secretary (SE&L) reiterated that the food provided under the MDM Scheme should be universally acceptable to all. There should be no discrimination, and sensibilities of all sections of the society should be duly taken into account since one of the main aim of the MDM Scheme is to foster equality among the children.
- 7.4 With reference to the system for transportation of foodgrains from FCI godown to school, Joint Secretary (EE-I) pointed out that there are as many as five intervening stages. She requested the State Govt. to critically examine this issue and reduce the number of stages in transportation of foodgrains. She urged the State Govt. to make arrangements for door- delivery of foodgrains at school level rather than making the school level authorities collect foodgrains from FPS shops. Delivering foodgrains at school level would ensure transparency and reduce pilferage and wastage.
- 7.5 On the issue of supply of foodgrains at the rate of 120-150 grams per child/day, she stated that Government of India will make reimbursements to FCI at BPL rates in respect of the prescribed norm of 100 grams per child/day. Any excess supply of foodgrains, over and above 100 grams, would have to be borne by the State Government from its own budgetary resources.
- 7.6. Secretary (SE&L) pointed out that the State's claim is that 97% of enrolled children are availing Mid Day Meal and requested Dr. Vijaya Kumar, Faculty, National Institute of Rural Development, Andhra Pradesh, a monitoring Institute for his comments. In response, Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar stated that in economically developed districts like East Godaviri and West Godaviri, only 65-75% of enrolled children are availing Mid Day Meal in schools. However, in backward districts, it is normally 75-85% of the enrolled children are availing Mid Day Meal in schools. Secretary (SE&L) requested the State Education Secretary to re-examine their claim that 97% of the enrolled children are availing Mid Day Meal and take necessary corrective measures.
- 7.7 Shri Ravi Ramachandran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India, made a quick review of the State's performance in implementation of MDM Scheme during

01.04.07 to 31.12.07 and the following important issues were brought to the notice of the State Govt.:-

- i) **Utilization of Food grains: (01.04.07 to 31.12.07):** An analysis of the utilization of food grains during 2007-08 showed wide variations in inter-district in food grain utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 71%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

(Total 23 Districts)

Primary

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	85 % and above	2 Districts	Hyderabad and Kammam
2	65% and below	3 Districts	Guntur, West Godaviri and Nalgonda

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization was 11%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only EBBs)

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 10%	9 Districts	Vijaya Nagaram, Prakasam, Warangal, Rangareddy, Nizamabad, Karim Nagar, Kadappa, Chittur, Nalgonda.
2	11-15%	11 Districts	Kurnool, Vishakapatnam, Anantpur, Mahabubnagar, Kammam, Adilabad, Medak, Guntur, Nellore, East Godaviri, Krishna
3	Above 15%	1 District	Srikakulam
	TOTAL	21 Districts.	

- ii) **Utilization of Cooking cost:** An analysis of the utilization of cooking cost during 2007-08 showed wide variations in inter-district in cooking cost utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization was 53%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

(Total 23 Districts)

Primary

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 50%	3 Districts	Krishna, Guntur, Nalgonda
2	50% - 62%	20 Districts	

In 3 districts (Chittoor, Kadappa and Mehabubnagar), there is negative closing balance of food grains as on 31.12.07. There was negative balance as on 31.03.07 also. MHRD has requested the State Govt. to explain the reasons for such negative balance for which response is awaited.

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the cooking cost allocation. State level utilization was 23%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only EBBs)

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 10%	1 Districts	Krishna
2	10-20%	11 Districts	Waranagall, Renga Reddy, Nizamabad, Karim Nagar, Nellore, Kadappa, Chittoor, Nalgonda, East Godaviri
3	21%-30%	9 District	Visakapatnam, Anantpur, Mahabubnagar, Kammam, Adilabad, Medak, Vijayanagaram, Prakasam, Guntur.
	TOTAL	21 Districts.	

- iii) Mismatch in utilization of Food grains vis-à-vis utilization of cooking cost:
Ideally the percentage utilization of cooking costs and foodgrains should tally with each other. State level utilization is as under:

	<u>Food grains</u>	<u>Cooking cost</u>
Primary (against 75%)	71%	53%
Upper Primary (against 50%)	11%	23%

Primary: (01.04.07 To 31.12.07)

Sl. No.	Level of Mismatch	No. of districts	Name of the Districts.
1	Above 20% (Food grain utilization is more than cooking cost utilization)	7 Districts	Hyderabad, Kammam, Vijayanagaram, Medak, Warangal, Kadappa and Guntur
2	Less than 20%	16 Districts	

Upper Primary: (01.10.07 To 31.12.07)

Sl. No.	Level of Mismatch	No. of districts	Name of the Districts.
1	Above 15% (Cooking cost utilization is more than food grain utilization)	7 Districts	Srikakulam, Kurnool, Vishakapatnam, Anantpur, Mehabubnagar, Adilabad, Medak.
2	Less than 15%	16 Districts	

- iv) In 5 districts (West Godaviri, Krishna, Guntur, Karnool and Hyderabad) there was huge unutilized quantity of food grains as on 31.03.2007 which exceeded even the allocation for the entire year 2007-08 in respect of those districts. The State Govt. was requested to provide clarification. The response is awaited.
- v) In 3 districts (Chitoor, Kadapa and Mehabubnagar), there was negative balance of food grains as on 31.03.07. The State Govt. was requested to clarify the reasons for this discrepancy. The response is awaited.
- vi) Against net allocation of 52,602 MTs of rice for the entire year 2007-08 after adjusting unspent balance as on 31.03.07 (Primary), the State had already lifted 83,205 MTs as on 31.12.07 i.e. excess food grain of 30,603 MTs. The State Govt. was requested to clarify the reasons for this discrepancy. The response is awaited.
- vii) There is a draft audit para pertaining to Ministry of Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India regarding excess drawal of food grains in 7 districts (Anantpur, Kadappa, Kurnool, Karim Nagar, Nizamabad, Kammam, Adilabad) during 2004-05. This resulted in extra subsidy burden of about Rs. 18.06 crore. Inspite of repeated reminders, the response from the State Govt. is awaited.
- viii) State Govt. issues food grains @ 120 grams/ child/ day (Primary) against 100 grams/child/day stipulated by the Central Govt. Further, The State Govt. also contemplates to extend the Scheme to classes IX –X also. Hence, State may ensure that there is no excess drawal of food grains over and above quantity prescribed by Central Govt. from the subsidized food grains provided by the Central Govt. through FCI.
- ix) In the AWP&B 2008-09, the State Govt. requested for increase in allocation of rice by the Central Govt. from 100 grams to 125 grams/child/day. It is pertinent to note that Central Govt., after due consultation with nutrition experts of the country, have prescribed nutritional content 450 cal and 700 cal for primary and upper primary stage respectively. MHRD, accordingly, worked out the food grain requirement @ 100 grams and 150 grams per child per day to meet the above nutritional norms.

- x) All Food grain UCs for 2006-07 and 2007-08 are pending. Furnishing these UCs within the prescribed time limit is mandatory for the regular supply of free food grains by FCI in view of stipulation laid down by the Department of Food & Public Distributions, Govt. of India.
- xi) Utilization of MME: A sum of Rs. 5.09 crore was released as Central Assistance towards MME cost for 2007-08. The State Govt. reports expenditure of Rs. 2.00 crore as on 31.12.07. However, out of this expenditure, there is no expenditure towards "Head: Monitoring & Evaluation" which, is a crucial component of MME.
- xii) Construction of Kitchen sheds: Out of Rs. 103.21 crore of Central assistance released towards construction of 17,201 kitchen sheds during 2006-07, the progress State achieved as on 31.12.07 is 21% only.
- xiii) The State has never sent any QPRs so far even though 9 Quarters are over. Similarly foodgrains UCs for 2006-07 & 2007-08 are pending.

7.7. With regard to audit objection, the State Education Secretary mentioned that prior to introduction of cooked Mid Day Meal in 2004, the State was distributing dry rations @ 3 Kg. per child per month. Hence the same practice continued after September, 2004 also even though the norm for Central assistance was changed from 3 kg. per child per month to 100 grams per child per working day. This resulted in consumption of extra foodgrains in the State of Andhra Pradesh. In response, Secretary(SE&L) stated that such practice not only violated the norms laid down by the Govt. of India for providing Central assistance but also resulted in wastage and pilferage of resources. He urged the State Govt. to take necessary corrective measures immediately.

7.8. After discussion, the number of children (both for primary and Upper-primary) and number of school days was approved by the Board for quantifying the Central assistance for Andhra Pradesh for the Mid Day Meal for 2008-09 at the existing norms, which was as under:-

No	Details	Approval by MDM-PAB
1	No. of Children availing MDM	
	Primary	
1.1	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	49,92,721
1.2	EGS	3,013
1.3	AIE	77,479
	TOTAL	50,73,213
	Upper Primary	
1.4	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	18,14,065
1.5	EGS	0
1.6	AIE	0
	TOTAL	18,14,065
2	No. of Working days	
2.1	Primary	220
2.2	Upper Primary	220

8. KARNATAKA

8.1 Shri T.M. Vijaya Bhaskar, Principle Secretary (Education), Govt of Karnataka in his initial remarks stated that in Karnataka, there is full time, dedicated staff for implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme. At district and taluk level, Group B officers along with support staff have been posted to look after Mid Day Meal Scheme. The monitoring of Mid Day Meal scheme is done by Zilla Panchayats at district level and Taluka Panchayats at Taluk level. The State Government releases the money to the districts through the link document of ZPs. The amount is drawn once in 3 months at the district level, released to the school level SDMCs through Taluk Panchayaths. The funds for cooking cost and other contingency are released three months in advance. Regarding budget provision for reimbursement of Central Assistance and State Share for the year 2008-09, he stated that it has been proposed but yet approved. He assured the Board that details will be provided in due course.

He then requested Shri. Kumar Naik, Commissioner of Public Instruction, Govt. of Karnataka to make a power point presentation on the State's Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2008-09. The salient features of the presentation were as follows:-

- (i) MDM scheme was implemented in educationally and economically 7 backward North Eastern districts of the State during 2002-03. Later on the scheme was extended to other districts of the State in a phased manner. As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the scheme of providing hot cooked meal is implemented for all the children of classes 1 to 5 of both Government and Government aided primary schools. Government of Karnataka has extended the scheme of providing hot cooked meal to the children of 6 & 10 standards of Government and Government aided school out of its own resources. As on 30.09.07, 40,94,278 children in 47,432 primary schools and 22,56,826 children in 7,103 upper primary schools are availing Mid Day Meal in schools.
- (ii) There is dedicated staff sanctioned for implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme. At state level, Commissioner of Public Instruction is looking after the scheme. He is supported by Joint Director, one Assistant Nutrition Officer, two Assistant Directors, one Manager and one Accountant Superintendent. At district level, Chief Executive Officer assisted by Education officer and at Taluk level, Executive Officer assisted by Assistant Director is looking after the scheme.
- (iii) For supervision and effective implementation of scheme, there are district level committees under the chairmanship of District in-charge Minister. Districts and Taluk Nodal officers are assigned the work of coordination and supervision.

- (iv) The number of schools covered under the scheme at primary level is 47432. 37802 schools have kitchens. At secondary level, number of schools covered under the scheme is 6067 with 2208 schools have kitchens.
- (v) In case of Primary schools, every meal contains 490 Calories and 12 grams of Protein. The quantity of foodgrains in grams. is as under:-

	Primary	EBBs 6 to 8	High Schools
Rice	100	150	150
Pulses	20	25	25
Vegetables	50	70	70
Salt	2	4	4
Oil	3	6	6

- (vi) The additional nutrition provided to children are as under:-

Vitamin A	2 lakh IU	2 tablets/year
Iron & Folic acid tablets	20 mg	108 tablets/year (alternate days for 36 weeks)
Albendazole tablets (Deworming tablets)	400 mg	2 Tablets/year
Total cost Rs. 11/child/year		

- (vii) According to traditional taste in the various districts menu have been suggested as follows.

Monday	-	Rice Sambar
Tuesday	-	Rice Sambar
Wednesday	-	Rice Sambar
Thursday	-	Rice Sambar
Friday	-	Bisi Bele bath
Saturday	-	Upma

The cost break-up is been worked out as follows:

Sl No	Item	Cost
1	Pulses, Oil & Salt (including transportation)	Rs 0.71
2	Vegetables	Rs 0.50
3	LPG	Rs 0.40
4	Salary, Honorarium, Contingencies, Additional nutrition	Rs 1.55
5	Total per child	Rs 3.16

(viii) In addition, the State Government has laid down norms for the appointment of cooks as follows:

Category	No. of children	No. of cooks
A1	Upto 25 children	1
A	26-70 children	2
B	71-300	3
C	302 and above	4

All cooks appointed are women; the first cook belongs to SC/ST, the second from general category, the third from OBC and the fourth from a minority community. Priority is given to widow and destitute women. The honorarium paid to cooks is tabulated below. A proposal to enhance the honorarium is under consideration.

Head Cook	Rs.650/-
Cook	Rs.450/-
Assistant Cook	Rs.400/-
Helper	300/-

- (ix) 107 NGOs like Akshaya Pathra, J.S.S, Adanya Chethana, Mohsin Sheriff Foundation, Udupi Krishna Math and others are engaged in the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The total schools, where the Mid Day Meal programme is implemented by NGOs are 4383 covering 10,39,574 children. NGOs are provided 100grams rice and conversion cost of Rs 1.61/child/day for primary school children. NGOs are provided 150grams rice and conversion cost of Rs 2.13/child/day for high school children. In addition, transportation charges @ Rs 75/quintal is also provided to these NGOs. Other expenses such as cooks honorarium, vessels and kitchen construction, transportation are to be borne by NGOs.
- (x) The good practices followed by state for implantation of the programme are as under:-
- LPG is used in the preparation of food. This has helped in cleanliness and neatness. This also ecological and environmental friendly.
 - Only women cooks are appointed in the preparation of food.
 - Provision has been made for appointing cooks belonging to SC/ST and other backward communities. Preference is given to widows & destitutes. This helps in empowerment of women and brings about social equity.
 - Mother's committees have been constituted in each school, where mothers participate in cooking & serving. Mothers serve food with affection and children feel comfortable.

- e) Regarding construction of kitchen sheds, pucca kitchen sheds are being provided out of various schemes of Zilla Panchayath and state funds.
 - f) Conversion cost is released to Joint Account of SDMC and Head cook well in advance who purchase vegetables and other sambar material.
 - g) Kitchen garden is being developed in about 19375 schools in the 1st phase. Provision of Rs 3500/- has been made for each school to develop kitchen garden. The vegetables grown are used for Mid Day Meal programme.
 - h) A display board indicating the quantum of food and measures to be taken for preparation of food and the number of beneficiaries is provided in all the schools at a cost of Rs 1000/- per school, so that transparency is maintained in this programme.
- (xi) An evaluation of the programme of Midday meals scheme was made by University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. Smt. Rama K.Naik, who conducted the study in the State, has given following findings about the programme.
- Improvement in attendance. Nearly 87% of children attend the schools regularly.
 - There is improvement in the children's health. The children are active.
 - Social equality is attained to a greater extent.
 - Midday meal scheme has stopped children from being hungry
 - Use of Gas in cooking has reduced pollution.
 - Appointment of cooks belonging to various categories of people has also increased.

The reports also highlights that increase in enrolment in schools cannot be attributed to Mid Day Meal Scheme alone, however after the implementation of the Mid Day Meal scheme children are participating class room as well as co-curricular activities.

- (xii) Under Suvarna Arogya Chaitanya Programme, regular health check is done for all children of classes 1 to 10 of Govt. Schools. This programme was started during the year 2006-07 and conducted in campaign mode. Each student is given a health card to record the health status for 10 years. Cases of serious illness found are treated at district and state level and expenses are borne by the Health Department.

- 8.2 Chairperson Secretary (SE&L) pointed out that as in the case of Andhra Pradesh there are religious bodies in Karnataka involved in providing MDM in schools. He requested the State Govt. to conduct evaluation study to assess the perception of children belonging to various castes and religious groups. With this the Secretary (SE&L) invited the PAB members to make their comments:
- 8.3 State Education Secretary requested Govt. of India to consider adopting SSA fund flow mechanism for MDM Scheme as well. This would reduce delay caused in delivering cooking cost and other components central as well as state assistance at school level.
- 8.4 With regard to performance of the State in implementation of MDM Scheme during the period 01.04.07 to 31.12.07, Shri Ravi Ramachandran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India brought the following issues, as highlighted in the appraisal note, to the notice of the State Government:-

- (i) Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 59%. The level of low utilization and inter-district variation was as under:-

Primary

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	0%	3 Districts	Bangalore U South, Chikkaballapur, Ramanagar
2	Less than 50%	4 Districts	Haveri, Bijapur, Shimoga, Mandya
3	51% - 65%	19 Districts	
4	Above 65%	4 Districts.	Tumkur, Hassan, Chitradurga, Gulburga
	TOTAL	30 Districts	

- (ii) Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 2%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only EBBs)

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	0%	16 Districts	Raichur, Chamrajanagar, Kolar, Tumkur, Gadag, Mysore, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Bidar, Hassan, Mandya, Bellary, Koppal, Bagalkot, Bangalore R and Ramanagar.
2	Less than 20%	4 Districts	Dharward, Davangere, Chiradurga, Belgaum.
4	Above 20%	0 District.	
	TOTAL	20 istricts.	

- (iii) The attention of state representative was also drawn to the utilization of cooking cost, where district-wise utilization was not furnished by the State.
- (iv) Mismatch in utilization of food grains vis-à-vis utilization of cooking cost: Ideally the percentage utilization of cooking costs and foodgrains should tally with each other. State level utilization during 01.04.07 to 31.12.07 is as under:

	<u>Food grains</u>	<u>Cooking cost</u>
Primary (against 75%)	59%	Not furnished by State
Upper Primary (against 50%)	2%	39%

- (v) A sum of Rs. 4.07 crore was released as Central Assistance towards MME cost. The State Govt. did not provide information on utilization during 2007-08. Principle Secretary (Education), Govt. of Karnataka assured the Board that he would take necessary corrective measures on these issues.
- 8.5 Ms. Anita Makhijani, Asst. Technical Adviser, Food and Nutritional Board pointed to the menu prescribed by State Govt. wherein it was stated that 54 calories are derived from 50 gram of vegetables. She stated that normally 100 grams of vegetables would provide only 50 calories and requested the State Govt. to rework the calorific content of the menu.
- 8.6 Shri. P.K Sud, Under Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India pointed out that lifting of foodgrains is not uniform in Karnataka. During the months of October, November and December, 2007, 50% of the foodgrains was lifted by the State, whereas in the first quarter of the financial year 2007-08, lifting was very poor. The State representative clarified that the reason of low lifting during first quarter might be on account of summer holidays and availability of unutilized stock as on 31.03.07. He however assured that this matter will be looked into.
- 8.7 After discussion, the number of children (both for primary and Upper-primary) and number of school days was approved by the Board for quantifying the Central assistance for Karnataka for the Mid Day Meal for 2008-09 at the existing norms, which was as under:-

No	Details	Approval by MDM-PAB
1	No. of Children availing MDM	
	Primary	
1.1	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	37,79,066
1.2	EGS	0
1.3	AIE	0
	TOTAL	37,79,066
	Upper Primary	
1.4	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	20,31,143
1.5	EGS	0
1.6	AIE	0
	TOTAL	20,31,143
2	No. of Working days	
2.1	Primary	212
2.2	Upper Primary	212

9. CHHATTISGARH

9.1 Ms Nidhi Chhibber, Director, Public Instruction, Chhattisgarh presented the MDM Annual Work Plan & Budget 2008-09 for the State of Chhattisgarh. The scheme has been transferred from Tribal Department to School Education Department in the year 2007-08. Salient features of the AWP&B are summarized as under:-

- i) In the State of Chhattisgarh, 29,31,838 children studying in 32,941 primary schools and 10,95,754 children studying in 6,772 upper primary stage in EBBs are being covered under MDM Scheme.
- ii) The nutritional value of the meal is 450 calories and 12 grams of protein to the children studying upto I-V classes. Eggs are given in some districts where parents of the children have given their consent. Green vegetables and fruits are also served.
- iii) The unit cost of meal is Rs. 2.50 per child per day. The State is contributing Rs.1.00 per child per day towards the conversion cost of cooked Mid Day Meal.
- iv) The Scheme is implemented at School level through Village Panchyats, Village Education Committees, Women Self Help Groups and School Management Committees. The School Jan Bhagidhari Samiti is also involved in the monitoring and supervision of the programme.
- v) Only one NGOs viz "Pahal" of Raipur is involved in serving Hot Cooked Meal to children of 182 Schools of Raipur corporation area through its centralized kitchen facility.
- vi) State Government has issued orders that old age persons covered under the Annapurna scheme can give 3 Kg of rice to the school out of the allotment of rice for them and can remain in the school when Mid Day Meal is served.
- vii) Supply chain of food grains: After submission of State AWP&B and according to demand, the FCI release food grains allocated to the State. Thereafter, the State Civil Supplies Department through Nagarika Apurta Nigam reallocates food grains to their district agencies i.e. to the District manager under the Civil Supplies Department. Food grains are further allocated to blocks after getting requirement figures from the block level with list of schools. Thereafter food grains are allocated to the Fair Price Shops near to the Schools. School level cooking agencies are lifting food grains from the FP shops. Some of the Blocks are issuing coupons to the cooking agencies according to enrollment.
- viii) Mechanism for flow of funds: In Chhattisgarh, funds are provided in anticipation because at Directorate level Budget section sends detailed budgeting report to State Finance Department in order to sanction of total amount.

ix) Monitoring: Since inception of Mid-Day Meal Cell, strengthening of monitoring system of the State at all levels especially at Gram Panchayat level, VECs, PTAs and Janbhagidhari Samiti is ensured and instructions given to them to involve themselves to monitor the regularity and wholesomeness of meal, cleanliness in cooking and timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel etc and even the number of Gram Panchayats /PTA/VECs are asked to be sensitized to see there is no social and gender discrimination in serving the food. This contributes to breaking caste and gender barriers in every district. On an average two-three meetings of SMCs are reported in the QPRs and monthly report.

x) Best Practices Followed in the State: Best practices followed by the state are indicated below:

(i) Government of Chhattisgarh has issued orders that old age persons covered under the Annapurna scheme can give 3 Kilogram of rice to the school out of the allotment of rice for them and can partake in the Mid Day Meal in school.

(ii) Cooking of food through women's self help groups and currently over 60% of schools in the state is being managed by these groups.

(iii) Medical check-up, giving of iron folic acid tablets and vitamin-A and de-worming medicines to students.

(iv) Display of Menu on the wall of the school permanently and also display of strength of students and present and food grains quantity used.

(v) Giving eggs in some districts where parents of the students give their consent.

(vi) Giving green vegetables and seasonal fruits and invariably serving puffed rice and gram

9.2 Secretary (SE&L) expressed concern about the States' claim of number of children availing Mid Day Meal (29,31,838 children at Primary level) which is more than the population of 6-10 years aged group as per Census 2001 projections for 2007 (25,77,200 children). He reiterated that authentic and realistic figures of the number of children are crucial for effective and optimum utilization of resources under the Scheme. Hence, he requested the State Govt. to critically examine this issue and take remedial measures. As an interim, he stated that number of children to be taken into account for calculating of Central Assistance for 2008-09 should be 80% of the disaggregated enrollment under SSA in Govt., Govt. aided and Local Body schools as per DISE 2006-07, subject to actual amount in due course of time as per actual.

- 9.3 Shri. S.K. Ray, Joint Secretary-Financial Advisor, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India expressed serious concern about non-release of central assistance towards construction of kitchen sheds and procurement of kitchen devices (Rs. 44.46 crores released by Gol in November, 2006) by the State Government even after a year is passed.
- 9.4 With regard to performance of the State in implementation of MDM Scheme during the period 01.04.07 to 31.12.07, Shri Ravi Ramachandran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India brought the following issues, as highlighted in the appraisal note, to the notice of the State Government:-
- i) Utilization of Food grains: (01.04.07 to 31.12.07): An analysis of the utilization of food grains during 2007-08 showed wide variations in inter-district in food grain utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 59%. Level of over/under utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Primary

(Total 16 Districts)

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Below 30%	1 district	Dantewada (29%)
2	31% - 50%	4 districts	Bastar, Durg, Korba and Kabirdam
3	51% - 65%	7 districts	Jaispur, Bilawpur, Korba, Damtari, Mahasamund, Raigarh and Rajnandgaon
4	Above 85%	1 district	Sarguja (99%)

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the food grains allocation. State level utilization is 30%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only EBBs)

Total : 12 Districts

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Below 15%	2 districts	Jaispur(11%), Korba(6%)
2	16% - 40%	6 districts	Dantewada, Sarguja, Bastar, Bilaspur, Kabirdam and Raigarh,
3	Above 61%	2 districts	Durg (73%) and Raipur(66%)

- ii) Utilization of Cooking cost: An analysis of the utilization of cooking cost during 2007-08 shows wide variations in inter-district in cooking cost utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 59%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

(Total 16 Districts)

Primary

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Below 35%	2 districts	Dantewada (7%), Mahasamund(31%)
2	36% - 65%	7 districts	Sarguja, Janjir, Kanker, Korba, Raigarh, Bastar, Korla

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the cooking cost allocation. State level utilization is 21%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only Ebbs)

Total : 12 Districts

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Below 10%	2 districts	Datewada (5%), Korba(8%)
2	11% - 40%	6 districts	Korla, Sarguja, Bastar, Bilaspur, Kabirdam, Raigarh
3	Above 61%	2 districts	Durg (65%) and Raipur(65%)

- iii) Mismatch in utilization of Food grains vis-à-vis utilization of cooking cost: Ideally the percentage utilization of cooking costs and foodgrains should tally with each other. State level utilization is as under:

	<u>Food grains</u>	<u>Cooking cost</u>
Primary (against 75%)	59%	59%
Upper Primary (against 50%)	30%	21%

Primary: (01.04.07 To 31.12.07)

No.	District	Food grain utilization	Cooking cost utilization
1	Dantewada	29%	7%
2	Durg	45%	66%
3	Kabirdam	50%	77%
4	Damtari	58%	81%
5	Sarguja	99%	60%

Upper Primary: (01.10.07 To 31.12.07)

No.	District	Food grain utilization	Cooking cost utilization
1	Koria	50%	17%
2	Dantewada	34%	5%
3	Jaspur	11%	54%

- iv) Utilization of MME: A sum of Rs. 1.85 crore was released as Central Assistance towards MME cost for 2007-08. The State Govt. reports expenditure of Rs. 1.14 crore as on 31.12.07. However, out of this expenditure, there is no expenditure towards "Head: Monitoring & Evaluation" which, is a crucial component of MME.
- v) Construction of Kitchen sheds: Out of Rs. 33.41 crore of Central assistance released towards construction of 5,568 kitchen sheds during 2006-07, the progress State achieved as on 31.12.07 is 0%.
- vi) Procurement of Kitchen devices: A sum of Rs. 11.05 crore was released for procurement of kitchen devices in 22,098 schools during 2006-07 and 2007-08. The State Govt shows 0% progress.
- vii) The State has never sent any QPRs so far even though 9 Quarters are over.
- viii) Even though SSA data shows 14,048 children and 69,819 children enrolled under EGS and AIE centers respectively, the State Government shows 0 as enrollment in EGS and AIE centers under MDM Scheme. It appears that EGS and AIE centers are not being covered under MDM Scheme.

9.5 MDM-PAB Approvals: After discussion, the number of children (both for primary and Upper-primary) and number of school days was approved by the Board for quantifying the Central assistance for Chhattisgarh for the Mid Day Meal for 2008-09 at the existing norms, which was as under:-

No	Details	Approval by MDM-PAB
1	No. of Children availing MDM	
	Primary	
1.1	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	22,08,519*
1.2	EGS	0
1.3	AIE	0
	TOTAL	22,08,519*
	Upper Primary	
1.4	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	10,95,754
1.5	EGS	0
1.6	AIE	0
	TOTAL	10,95,754
2	No. of Working days	
2.1	Primary	206
2.2	Upper Primary	206

*80% of 27,60,649 – Enrollment in Govt. , Govt. aided and Local body schools as per DISE 2006-07.

10. TAMIL NADU

10.1 Dr. Manivasan, Director, Social Welfare & Nutritional meal Programme Department, Govt of Tamil Nadu made a power point presentation on the MDM Annual Work Plan & Budget 2008-09. Salient features of the presentation are summarized as under:-

i) Mid Day Meal Scheme was introduced on 1st July 1982, Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme and was initially implemented in Child Welfare Centres for pre-school children in the age group of 2 to 5 years and to primary school children in the age group of 5 to 9 years. Subsequently the scheme was extended to Nutritious Meal Centres in urban areas from 15-9-1982 and further extended to school students in the age group of 10 to 15 from September 1984. The students in 1 to V Standard do receive nutritious meal throughout the year (all 365 days) and those in the VI to X Standard receive the meal in all the school working days (220 days). As on 30.09.07, Mid Day Meal is being provided to 62,67,723 children through 41,663 Noon Meal Centers.

ii) Calorific / protein content: By way of usual nutritious meal like rice, dal, Vegetable, oil etc the children in the age group of 6 years to 15 years studying in Std I to X used to get 435.3 calories and 11.15 grams of protein per day. In addition to this, protein rich food such as three boiled eggs per week 20 grams of boiled potato on Fridays and 20 grams of cooked black bengal gram or green gram on Tuesdays provides additional 327.6 calories and 22.79 grams of protein per week. The nutritious meal along with protein rich food is provided to the students in the age group of 2 years to 10 years throughout the year and 220 days for the students in the age group of 11-15 years. The nutritious meal is provided to the targeted children / students without any interruption in this State.

iii) Break-up of nutrition content and cost of meal per child per day

A. Primary

Sl.No	Food item	Quantity (in grams)	Cost of Qty Recommended (in Rs.)	Calories	Protein content (in grams)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Food grains (Rice)	100	1.00	340	8.00
2	Pulses	15	0.38	50	3.20
3	Vegetables(in leafy)	50	0.20	30	1.00
4	Oil &fat	1	0.05	9	0.00
5	Salt & condiments	1.9	0.09	0	0.00
6	Fuel	0	0.15	0	0.00
7	Labour and other administrative charge	0	1.15	0	0.00
8	any other items	0	0.00	0	0.00
	i.Egg (3 eggs/week)	138	0.90	34.05	2.50
	ii.Black gram/Bengal gram	20	0.06	9.9	0.59
	iii.Potato	20	0.03	2.8	0.05
	Total		4.01	475.75	15.34

B. Upper Primary

Sl.No	Food item	Quantity (in grams)	Cost of Qty Recommended (in Rs.)	Calories	Protein content (in grams)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Food grains (Rice)	150	1.50	510	12
2	Pulses	15	0.38	50	3.20
3	Vegetables(in leafy)	50	0.20	30	1.00
4	Oil &fat	1	0.05	9	0.00
5	Salt & condiments	1.9	0.09	0	0.00
6	Fuel	0	0.15	0	0.00
7	Labour and other administrative charge	0	1.15	0	0.00
8	any other items	0	0.00	0	0.00
	i.Egg (3 eggs/week)	138	0.90	34.05	2.50
	ii.Black gram/Bengal gram	20	0.06	9.9	0.59
	iii.Potato	20	0.03	2.8	0.05
	Total		4.51	645.75	19.34

iv) Food grains management: The food grains allocated by Government of India is lifted from the Food Corporation of India by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and stored in the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation godown. The rice is supplied to the centre point and the supplies are normally made between 10th – 25th of every month.

v) Financial Management: Adequate funds are provided in the budget. The Director of Social Welfare release the required funds to the District Collectors by way of advance grants for every quarter. The District Collectors in turn releases funds to the Block Development Officers as advance grant. The Block Development Officers will release the funds to each every centre as advance grant.

vi) System for procuring cooking ingredients (fuel, condiments, oil, etc.): The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, a State owned agency is designated as Nodal Agency to supply food commodities required to Nutritious Meal Centres such as rice, dhall, oil, Black Bengal Gram and Green gram to Nutritious Meal Centres. The Nutritious Meal Organizers are permitted to purchase vegetables condiments and fuel locally using the funds provided as advance grant.

vii) School Health Programme: Apart from hot cooked meal, provision of micro-nutrients and administering of de-worming medicines are giving to the children in the form of Ferrous Sulphate with Folic Acid, Folic Acid Tablet – IP, Vitamin “B” complex Tab NFI (Prophy lactic) & vitamin ‘C’ tablet. In addition, under School Health Programme for De-worming cases, Albendazole 200 mg, Metronidazole-IP 200 mg. are given to children. Double fortified salt (DFS) is used in the Mid Day Meal scheme in all districts of this State to control and prevent

iron and iodine deficiency / anemia which is the commonest nutritional disorder widely prevalent among children in the age group of 2-15 years.

viii) Provision of exclusive manpower for MDMS: The Block Development Officers, Municipal Commissioners advertise the vacancy position locally and call for applications for appointment or Organisers, Cook and Assistants. Only women are eligible for the appointment of above posts. The person to be selected is from the locality in which the centre is located. Preference is given to widows, deserted and destitute widows. The Personal Assistant (NMP) to the District Collectors is designated the Appointing Authority for the posts of Cook and Assistants. The District Collectors are the appointing authority for the posts of Noon Meal Organizers.

No. of Noon Meal Centers = 41,663

Designation	No. of Staff	Details of remuneration
Organizer	41,209	Rs. 2792/- per month (In Non-Standardised time scale Rs.1300-20-2000)
Cooks	41,424	Rs.1360/- PM on consolidated pay
Asst. Cook	41,127	Rs.1030/- PM on Consolidated Pay
Total	1,23,760	

Retirement Benefits:

	<u>Lump sum</u>	<u>Spl P.F cum G.S.</u>
- N.M.O	Rs.50000	Rs.10000
- Cooks	Rs.20000	Rs.10000
- Assistant cook	Rs.20000	Rs.10000

In case of death while in service Rs.1.50 lakhs will be disbursed to the legal heirs under FBF, compassionate ground appointment also to the women legal heirs.

ix) Monitoring: Monitoring Committees have already been constituted at village, block, and district level to monitor the supply of cooked Mid-Day meal, eggs, etc. The State Level Steering – Cum-Monitoring Committee has also been constituted. Targets have been fixed for the following officials to inspect the number of Noon Meal Centres noted against them.

S.No	Designation	Number of Centres
1	District Collector	10 Centres per month
2	PA (NMP) to District Collector	20 Centres per month
3	Programme Officer	30 Centres per month
4	Child Development Project Officer	60 Centres per month
5	Block Development officer	40 Centres per month

The scheme is being monitored at Panchayat Level, Block level and District Level by the Panchayat President, Block Development Officer and District Collector respectively the system of monitoring is being watched at all levels. Moreover, Hon'ble Chief Minister has also taken up a review on the performance of Mid Day Meal programme twice during the current year ie. on 16-07-2007 and 20-09-2007 and appreciated the performance of the scheme. As the scheme is implemented well, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has further allotted

a sum of Rs. 1 crore to implement the modernization of kitchens in nutritious meal centres at a cost of Rs.20000/- per centre.

x) Evaluation: The Government have entrusted the work of evaluation of Mid-Day-Meal programme with Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore. The work is on progress. The evaluation report is expected by 31 March 2008

xi) NGO participation: NGOs, Civic Body Organizations (CBOs) SHGs are not engaged for implementation of Mid-Day Meal Programme. Mothers are involved to watch the cooking and Serving of Mid Meal in the Schools. The Government has appointed Noon Meal Organiser, cook and Assistant in each Noon Meal Centre ever since the inception of the scheme, in 1982. As per State Policy Non-governmental Organisations has not been engaged for the implementation of Mid-Day Meal programme. The programme is solely managed by the above personnel appointed by the State Government ever since the inception of the scheme. Elected representations of PRIs are included in the village level committee to monitor for programme.

xii) Best practices followed in the State:

- Double Fortified Salt was used in the Mid-Day Meal programme in Goiter prone in 7 districts in this State.
- The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced the supply of third egg to the beneficiaries of PTMGRNMP and Child Centres in the age group of 2-15 years to benefit 71 lakh children and one boiled egg to the children in the age group of 1-2 years to benefit 2.40 lakh children in the Child Centres with effect from 15-07-2007. At present the school going children / preschool children is provided 3 eggs per week and they are getting 238.8 Calories and 19.5 gram of protein per week.
- The Government decided to modernize the Kitchens by providing LPG connection with gas stoves in the Mid-Day-Meal programme. The Government has so far provided Rs.5.81 crores to Modernize 5440 centres. It is proposed to provide a sum of Rs.2.24 crores to modernize 2350 nutritious meal centres during the year 2008-09.
- A Comprehensive health care service provided to the students. All Thursday and all Saturdays are observed as school Health days and referral Days respectively – School Health cards have been printed and supplied to the students – up to December 2004 out of 40,308 targeted schools, 23892 schools was visited by the Medical Teams 41.7 lakhs children are benefited.

10.2 Secretary (SE&L) observed that the AWP&B 2008-09 of Tamil Nadu, out of total enrollment of 44,53,537 in primary stage, the number of children availing Mid Day Meal is shown as 35,31,891. This works out to be around 79% of enrollment which is reasonable as a basis for making allotment.

10.3 Joint Secretary (EE-I) stated that the State Govt. is providing Mid Day Meal for the classes I to X, i.e. coverage beyond classes VIII for which central govt. does not provide Central Assistance. Hence, she requested the State Govt. to ensure that the accounts for classes I to VIII and IX are maintained separately and that Central Assistance is utilized only for the classes I to VIII.

10.4 With regard to performance of the State in implementation of MDM Scheme during the period 01.04.07 to 31.12.07, Shri Ravi Ramachandran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India brought the following issues, as highlighted in the appraisal note, to the notice of the State Government:-

i) Utilization of Food grains: (01.04.07 to 31.12.07): An analysis of the utilization of foodgrains during 2007-08 shows wide variations in inter-district in food grain utilization. Considering that three-fourths of the year is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 75% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 59%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Primary

Total No. of Districts = 30

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 50%	3 Districts	Tiruvarur, Tuticorin and Kanniyakumari
2	51% - 65%	18 Districts	The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Sivaganga, Villupuram, Kancheepuram, Pudukottai, Madurai, Triuvallur, Thanjavur, Virudhunagar, Trichy, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Namakkal, Tirunelveli, Ramanad, Cuddalore
3	Above 65%	9 Districts.	Salem, Nagapattinam, Vellore, Perambalur, Karur, Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai, Theni, Chennai

Similarly, in the Upper Primary stage, considering that 3 months out of 6 months (Oct 07 to March 08) is over by 31.12.2007, the districts should have utilized at least 50% of the foodgrains allocation. State level utilization is 20%. Level of under-utilization and inter-district variations in utilization is summarized as under:-

Upper Primary (Only Ebbs)

Sl. No	Level of utilization	No. of Districts	Number of Districts
1	Less than 20%	5	Namakkal, Sivaganga, Erode, Villupuram, Tiruvannamali
2	Above 20%	6	Cuddalore, Krishnagiri, Perambalur, Karur, Dharmapuri, Salem
TOTAL		11	

ii) Utilization of Cooking cost: State Govt. uniformly showed utilization of cooking cost as 72% which obviously are figures of fund releases from the State level and not actual district-wise utilization. The State Govt. is requested to provide this information at the earliest. Similarly, in the Upper Primary Stage also State Govt. uniformly showed the utilization as 50% of the allocation. This may not be reflecting actual expenditure at School

level. State Govt. is requested to furnish the actual expenditure at school level immediately. State Govt. was requested to critically review the position, and to take corrective immediate steps on a regular basis wherever large scale discrepancies exist. State Govt. was also requested to send an Action Taken Report to the Govt. of India at the earliest.

iii) Utilization of MME: A sum of Rs. 228.68 lakh was released as Central Assistance towards MME cost for Primary Stage but State Govt. has informed that allocation of 2007-08 under MME is Rs. 69.56 lakh. Out of this they have utilized Rs. 31.19 lakh. State Govt. is requested to examine this matter and take necessary steps to receive the balance amount of MME released by Govt. of India and utilize the same for the purpose of MDM Scheme.

10.5 After discussion, the number of children (both for primary and Upper-primary) and number of school days was approved by the Board for quantifying the Central assistance for Tamil Nadu for the Mid Day Meal for 2008-09 at the existing norms, which was as under:-

No	Details	Approval by MDM-PAB
1	No. of Children availing MDM	
	Primary	
1.1	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	35,19,354
1.2	EGS	6,006
1.3	AIE	6,531
	TOTAL	35,31,891
1.4	Govt. + Govt. aided + LB schools	18,18,796
1.5	EGS	10,960
1.6	AIE	1,314
	TOTAL	18,31,070
2	No. of Working days	
2.1	Primary	214
2.2	Upper Primary	210

Meeting ended with a word of thanks to the Chair.

--oOo--

(K.K. Sharma)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tele: 011-23388037

Fax No. 011- 2338 2394

Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
(Mid-Day Meal Division)

The following officers/officials attended the meeting of the Mid-Day Meal Programme Approval Board held under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (SE&L) on 28.2.2008 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi to review the status of implementation during 2007-08 as well as to consider and approve the Annual Work Plan & Budget 2008-09 in respect of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand:

1. Shri A. K. Rath, Secretary, Deptt. of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Mrs. Anita Kaul, Joint Secretary, Deptt. of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Shri K. Ravi Ramachandran, Deputy Secretary (MDM), Deptt. of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Shri Arvind Suri, Director (MDM), Deptt. of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Shri Vikram Sahay, Director (MDM), Deptt. of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Shri S. K. Ray, JS & FA (HRD), M/o H.R.D., Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Dr. C.B.S. Venkata Ramana, Principal Secretary (SE), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. (Fax: 040-23450563)
7. Shri C. A. V Prasad, Addl. Director (MDM), O/o DSE, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. (Mob: 098480-34836)
8. Dr. T. Vijaya Kumar, Faculty, NIRD, Monitoring Institute, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad. (Fax: 040-24008423, Mob: 9246218345, E-mail: tvknird@gmail.com)