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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-110 115

D.O. No. 15-6/2015-Desk (MDM)
06th August, 2015

Dear

The Mid day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which provides hot cooked mid day meals to 10.33 crore children studying in elementary schools in 11.67 lakh Government and Government aided schools on daily basis. The Scheme envisages convergence with Schemes of other Ministries such as Rural Development, Health & Family Welfare, Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Drinking Water and Sanitation, etc.

2. As you know, the Ministry of Rural Development has launched **Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)** under which Hon'ble Members of Parliament (MPs) have identified / selected 628 Gram Panchayats / Villages for developing them as Adarsh Gram by March, 2019 including one village per constituency to be developed by 2016. The relevant list of such Gram Panchayats / Villages in respect of your State is enclosed for ready reference.

3. Some of the objectives of SAGY include access to rights and entitlements, wider social mobilization and enriched social capital. SAGY also focuses on universal access to education and improving nutritional status of children besides promoting, social integration, personal hygiene and community participation. These are also the core objectives of the MDMS. Considering its critical importance in meeting many of the objectives of SAGY, it is essential that the MDMS is implemented as a model scheme in the villages and Panchayats selected under SAGY.

4. In this regard, it is suggested that the performance of the MDMS in the schools located in the SAGY Gram panchayats may be carefully analysed to identify gaps. Thereafter, sustainable action may be taken to bring about visible improvement in them with special attention to coverage in terms of higher enrolment / attendance; availability of (a) food grains, (b) cooking cost, (c) model kitchen cum store, (d) water and hand-washing facilities, (e) cooking utensils, (f) eating plates; timely payment to cook cum helpers through E transfers; varied & enriched menu; and enhanced community participation. You may also consider implementing the best practices such as the concept of Tithi Bhojan for community participation, provision of proper dining halls in convergence with other schemes of Rural Development (RD) or MP Local Area Development (MPLAD), and promoting more intensive participation of parents, members of the School Management Committee (SMC) and the community at large in these schools. In short, the MDMS may be implemented in these schools as a model that can be replicated in other neighboring schools as well.

5. I would, therefore, urge you to issue necessary instructions to the concerned authorities at all levels for effective implementation of the MDMS in eligible schools in SAGY Gram Panchayats so as to make it a model for other Panchayats/ Villages in the area. We would be happy to learn of the action taken by your State in this regard at regular intervals.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(J. Alam)

To

Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries /
Secretaries (Education) /
Nodal Department for Mid Day Meal Schemes in States / UTs



मध्याह्न भोजन योजना
Mid Day Meal Scheme