

Frequently Asked Questions on Mid Day Meal Scheme

S.No.	Questions	Answers																								
1.	What is the objective of Mid Day Meal Scheme?	The objective of the scheme is to provide hot cooked meal to children of primary and upper primary classes.																								
2.	Which are the institutions/schools eligible for Mid Day Meal?	Government, Govt. Aided, Local Body, EGS and AIE Centres, Madarsa and Maqtabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Schools run by Ministry of Labour.																								
3.	Who is eligible for Mid Day meal?	Children studying in Primary and Upper Primary Classes in Government, Govt. Aided, Local Body, EGS and AIE Centres, Madarsa and Maqtabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and NCLP Schools run by Ministry of Labour are eligible for Mid Day Meal.																								
4.	What is the prescribed Quantity of food grain for the children of Primary and Upper Primary Schools?	Every child is eligible for 100 gms foodgrains at primary stage and 150 gms at upper primary stage on each working day.																								
5.	Who bears the cost of foodgrains?	The cost of foodgrains is fully borne by Government of India.																								
6.	What is the minimum standards of foodgrains supplied by FCI?	The quality of foodgrains must be of fair and average quality (FAQ) of Grade-A.																								
7.	What is the calorific and nutrition value and food norm per child per day?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">ITEMS</th> <th style="width: 35%;">PRIMARY</th> <th style="width: 35%;">UPPER PRIMARY</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Calorie</td> <td>450</td> <td>700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protein</td> <td>12</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rice/wheat</td> <td>100 Grams</td> <td>150 Grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dal</td> <td>20 Grams</td> <td>30 Grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vegetables</td> <td>50 Grams</td> <td>75 Grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oil & fat</td> <td>5 Grams</td> <td>7.5 Grams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Micro nutrients & de-worming medicines</td> <td colspan="2">in convergence with school health programme of NRHM</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEMS	PRIMARY	UPPER PRIMARY	Calorie	450	700	Protein	12	20	Rice/wheat	100 Grams	150 Grams	Dal	20 Grams	30 Grams	Vegetables	50 Grams	75 Grams	Oil & fat	5 Grams	7.5 Grams	Micro nutrients & de-worming medicines	in convergence with school health programme of NRHM	
ITEMS	PRIMARY	UPPER PRIMARY																								
Calorie	450	700																								
Protein	12	20																								
Rice/wheat	100 Grams	150 Grams																								
Dal	20 Grams	30 Grams																								
Vegetables	50 Grams	75 Grams																								
Oil & fat	5 Grams	7.5 Grams																								
Micro nutrients & de-worming medicines	in convergence with school health programme of NRHM																									
8.	What is cooking cost per child per day for 2011-12 ?	Primary stage- Rs. 2.89 Upper Primary Stage-Rs. 4.33 The Cooking cost includes cost of pulses, vegetables, oil & fat, condiments and fuel. It is shared between Central and State in the ratio of 90:10 for North East Region States and 75:25 for other States/UTs																								

S.No.	Questions	Answers
9.	How many days Mid Day Meal is served?	Mid Day Meal is served on all working days in the school. There is provision to provide mid day meal to children in summer vacations in drought affected areas.
10.	Who bears the cost of transportation from FCI go-down to school?	The cost of transport of foodgrains is fully borne by Government of India @ Rs. 75 per quintal. The cost of transport of foodgrains is borne by Government of India at prevalent rate of public distribution system of the State in case of North East Regions States and 3 hilly States viz., Himachal Pradesh, J&K and Uttarakhand.
11.	Who cooks the food? What is norm for engagement and payment of cook cum helper?	<p>There is provision to engage cook cum helpers @ Rs. 1000 per cook per month for 10 months. The expenditure towards the honorarium of cooks-cum-helpers shall be shared between the centre and the NER States on 90:10 basis and with other state /UTs on 75:25 basis.</p> <p>The norm for engagement of cook-cum-helper is one cook-cum-helper in a school having upto 25 students, two cooks-cum-helpers for schools having 26 to 100 students, and one additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of upto 100 students. There is flexibility for States/UTs to prepare their own norms for engagement of cook cum helper.</p>
12.	What is the norm for NCLP Schools run by Ministry of Labour?	The norm laid down for primary schools holds good in case of NCLP Schools. The number of working days in case of NCLP Schools may be upto 314 days in a calendar year.
13.	Is there any provision for Kitchen- cum-store in the school Premises? If Yes at what basis GOI is sharing the cost with state/UTs?	The scheme has provision for construction of kitchen cum store in every school where land is available. The norm for construction of kitchen cum store is- 20 sq. mt. plinth area for construction of Kitchen-cum- store in schools having upto 100 children. For every additional 100 children additional 4 sq.mt. plinth area will be added. The cost of kitchen-cum-store is determined on the basis of plinth area norm and State Schedule Rates prevalent in the State w.e.f. 1.12.2009. The cost of construction of Kitchen-cum-store shall be shared between the centre and the NER States on 90:10 basis and with other state /UTs on 75:25 basis. The slab of 100 children may be modified by the State/UTs depending upon local conditions

S.No.	Questions	Answers
14.	What is the provision for Kitchen devices per school?	<p>There is provision to provide 100% Central assistance @ Rs. 5000 per school for procurement of kitchen devices. States/UT Administration will have the flexibility to incur expenditure on the items listed below on the basis of the actual requirements of the school (provided that the overall average for the State / UT Administration remains Rs. 5000 per school):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cooking devices(Stove, Chulha, etc) b. Containers for storage of food grains and other ingredients c. Utensils for cooking and serving.
15.	What is the role of community?	<p>The community has an important role in monitoring and implementation of the scheme. The community can monitor the scheme on daily basis by making a roaster of persons.</p>
16.	What is the role of NGOs?	<p>As far as possible the cooking should be done in school kitchen by engaging cook cum helpers or self help groups. NGOs may be involved in extra ordinary circumstances in urban area only where cooking is not possible in the school premises. NGOs should not be involved in rural areas.</p>
17.	What is the procedure of allocation of central funds each year to each State and UT for implementation of MDM Programme?	<p>The Programme Approval Board for Mid Day Meal Scheme, after taking into consideration the performance of the States/UTs and other relevant factors, approves the number of children and number of days for the purpose of estimating the resource requirement including food grains. Allocation/release of resources to States/UTs is made after adjusting the unspent balances of the previous year.</p>
18.	Where does the responsibility of implementation of mid day meal scheme lie?	<p>The overall responsibility to ensure full and proper utilisation of available resources for serving cooked mid day meal lies with the State Governments/UT administrations. However, the Government, through MDMS Guidelines, has made elaborate arrangements for monitoring the implementation of the scheme at all levels. The guidelines also provide greater involvement of local community through the representatives of Gram Panchayats / Gram Sabhas, Village Education Committee, Parents Teachers' Association, School</p>

S.No.	Questions	Answers
		Management and Development Committee etc.
19.	Are there any Central Government guidelines relating to lifting of foodgrains and its utilization by the States/UTs properly?	In order to streamline the lifting of food grains and its utilization under the MDM Scheme this Ministry has issued detailed guidelines (Annexure- III) on 10th February, 2010
20.	It is understood that earlier the States/UTs were given Rs.60,000 for construction of each Kitchen Shed, but later on there was change in norms. What are the details in this regard?	<p>In the year 2006-07, Central Assistance towards construction of kitchen shed-cum-Stores @ Rs. 60,000 per unit to the States/UTs was introduced under MDM Scheme. It was decided to fill the infrastructure gap in a phased manner over a period of time. The cost of Kitchen sheds was fully borne by Central Government.</p> <p>Several States/UTs were finding it difficult to get the Kitchen-cum-store constructed in Rs. 60,000. They were also unable to effect convergence with other development programmes. States/UTs persistently demanded that the cost of construction should be enhanced to the reasonable level to help achieve the objectives of the Scheme.</p> <p>In view of this, the cost of construction of Kitchen-cum-store was revised from 1.12.2009. The cost of construction is now determined on the basis of State Schedule of Rates (SOR) and the plinth area norms prescribed by Govt. of India. The cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store is now being shared between Centre and NER States on the basis of 90:10 and for other States on 75:25 basis.</p>
21.	What is the monitoring mechanism provided by the Government for monitoring implementation of MDM Scheme?	This Department has prescribed comprehensive and elaborate mechanism for monitoring and supervision of the Mid Day Meal Scheme at various levels viz. national, State, District, Block and school level. The guidelines have specific mention to involve communities in monitoring and implementation of the Scheme.
22.	Why the government is not considering covering the privately managed schools in the	The question of covering privately managed private schools in tribal areas has been included in the terms of reference of Sub Group for the 12th Five Year Plan for the

S.No.	Questions	Answers
	country under the Mid Day Meal Scheme?	Mid Day Meal Scheme.
23.	What is the position of review of implementation of MDM Scheme by Review Missions constituted by Central Government?	This Department has been sending Review Missions consisting of one representative from the Centre, one from the State Government, one from UNICEF and one from Office of Supreme Court Commissioner representative to selected States to assess the implementation of the scheme at the field level. During 2010 and 2011, the Review Mission visited Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam Gujarat, The reports prepared by the Mission are forwarded to concerned States for taking corrective measures on the deficiencies reported in the implementation of the scheme.
