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

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated the 21st June, 2010

To,

Principal Secretaries and Secretaries of Nodal Department dealing with MDM in all States / UTs.

Subject: Revision of Guidelines of National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools in respect of Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) Component.

Sir / Madam,

During the PAB-MDM and National level review meeting with Education Secretaries, many States / UTs had informed that 35% of the MME funds earmarked for Management, Supervision, Training and Internal Monitoring and Evaluation appears to be meager, whereas 15% of the MME funds earmarked for External Monitoring & Evaluation is excessive. Moreover, External Evaluation of the Scheme is not required to be done every year. They also presented that 50% funds earmarked for school level expenditure is more than actually required at that level. As a result, on the one hand funds earmarked for school level expenditure and external monitoring and evaluation lapse every year, on the other hand States / UTs are unable to develop proper Management and Monitoring mechanism for want of adequate funds. There was a general request that the internal earmarking of funds for expenditure under MME head should be dispensed with. States / UTs should have the flexibility to spend the entire amount according to the need at various levels of management.

2. After careful consideration of the pros and cons of the proposal, the competent authority has decided to revise Para 6.4 of the MDM Guidelines 2006 and to club 35% funds earmarked for Management, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Scheme with 15% earmarked for External Monitoring and Evaluation. Now, the States / UTs will have the flexibility to utilize this 50% funds at various levels other than the school level for Management, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Scheme depending on the need of the State / UT. However, the remaining 50% earmarked fund for school level expenses will remain as such and will have to be spent on schools.

3. 50% funds earmarked for School Level Expenses can be spent on forms, stationery, soaps, plates, glasses, mats, training of cooks-cum-helpers and replacement / repair / maintenance of cooking devices, utensils, storage bean, etc. Earlier this fund was also utilized for purchasing height and weight recorder. As School Health Programme (SHP) of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) also provides funds for this component, no further expenditure needs to be made from MDM on this component. Remaining 50% funds earmarked for expenditure at other than school level may be spent on the following items:

- i) Hiring charges of man power at various levels,
- ii) Transport and Contingencies,
- iii) Office expenditure,
- iv) Furniture, Computer hardware and consumables,
- v) Capacity building of officials,
- vi) Preparation of relevant manuals,
- vii) External Monitoring & Evaluation,
- viii) Publicity etc.

The above is not an exhaustive, but only an illustrative list.

4. As per Para 2.3(vii) of the Mid Day Meal Guidelines, 2006, Central assistance is provided to States / UTs for Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (MME) at the rate of 1.8% of total assistance on (a) cost of foodgrains (b) transport cost and (c) cooking cost. With the introduction of separate component of recurring Central assistance for payment of honorarium to cooks-cum-helpers, it has also been decided that now Central Assistance for MME will be at the existing rate of 1.8% of total assistance on (a) cost of food grains (b) transport cost (c) cooking cost and (d) honorarium to cooks-cum-helpers.

5. All States / UTs are requested to disseminate the above revision in MDM Guidelines for immediate compliance, to all the concerned.

Yours faithfully,



(Anant Kumar Singh)
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