

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL EDUCATION ::
ANDHRA PRADESH :: HYDERABAD - 4.

Present: Sri N.Siva Sankar, I.A.S.

Rc.No.356/MDM/2011

Dated:05/12/2011.

Sub:- SE - Mid Day Meal Scheme - Implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme -
Instructions issued for effective implementation of the Scheme - Reg.

Ref:- D.O.Lr.No.2-9/2010-EE(MDM-1-2), dated:03/11/2011 of Joint Secretary
(EE.1), GOI, MHRD, New Delhi.

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The attention of all the District Educational Officers in the State is invited to the reference read above and they are informed that several cases of serving of unhygienic food to children under MDM scheme have come to the notice of the higher authorities through various sources especially newspaper reports. They are informed that Chapter 4 of the MDM guidelines stipulates that success of MDM scheme revolves around the manner, in which it is implemented at school. Safety and hygiene standards must be set and practiced with rigor. Processes should also be put in place to ensure vibrant community involvement so that the mid day meal programme becomes a people's programme, which addresses classroom hunger and also contributes to the overall improvement in teaching learning transaction.

The District Educational Officers are therefore instructed to comply the following major provisions of MDM guidelines strictly:

- i. Cooking and serving utensils should be properly cleaned and dried every day after use.
- ii. All cooks, helpers and other functionaries should also be trained in hygienic habits, for example regular cutting of nails, washing hands and feet with soap before commencement of cooking/serving etc. Help of UNICEF can be obtained for preparing state specific films for training cooks and helpers.
- iii. Ingredients used for cooking food grains, pulses, vegetables, cooking oil and condiments should be free from adulteration and pest infestation and should be used only after proper cleaning and washing.
- iv. Ingredients like salt should be stored in proper containers and protected from moisture, pests etc.
- v. Support of community members including Mothers' group should also be solicited to ensure that children was their hands with soap before eating, use clean plates and glasses, avoid littering and wastage of food, clean their plates and rinse their hands and mouth after eating.
- vi. The schools where food is cooked, the school management decides the menu and there is variety. It has been seen that supplies from NGO's like Naandi Foundation/Akshaya Patra sometimes tend to be monotonous with rice and dal repeated everyday. Even the quality of dal is poor. In some cases, the centralized kitchen is so far away from some of the schools that the food gets stale in transit especially during the summers. There is a little supervisory control over such supplies. This needs to be addressed immediately and such NGOs made accountable for their performance.

(P.T.O)

- vii. There is a need to introduce smokeless fire wood choolahs. The smokeless choolahs would not only eliminate smoke and create a healthy environment but also improve the thermodynamic efficiency.

They are also informed that the MDM guidelines entrust upon the District Collector/CEO of Zilla Panchayat, the responsibility to ensure that only good quality food grains are lifted from FCI godowns after joint inspection. In addition, they also need to ensure quality of food storage. In some schools, the food grains are stored inside class rooms. It is to be ensured that food grains are issued according to requirements and proper arrangements are made for its storage in consultation with FCI and State Civil Supplies Department quality control officials.

Inspections are to be taken up in schools where MDM scheme is being implemented. The services of Village Education Committees, School Management Committees, Mothers' Committee are not being fully utilized. Hence, their services are to be utilized in implementation of the scheme.

Timely payments are to be paid to the CCHs to keep them motivated and incentivized to prepare good quality meal.

The importance of Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) cannot be over emphasized. Proper functioning of such mechanisms are to be ensured and reports should be submitted to the HOD.

The District Educational Officers are therefore requested to ensure that above instructions are followed scrupulously in the implementation of the MDM scheme to ensure that hygienically cooked nutritious and wholesome meal is served to the children under MDM scheme.

Sd/-Sivasankar
**COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR
OF SCHOOL EDUCATION.**

To

All the District Educational Officers in the State.

Copy submitted to Principal Secretary to Government, Secondary Education (SE.Prog.I) Dept., Govt. of A.P., Hyderabad for information.

Copy furnished to all the Collectors and District Magistrates in the State for information and necessary action.

Copy to all the Regional Joint Directors of School Education in the State.

Copy to all MEO's, Dy.E.Os, HM's (through DEO concerned).

//T.C.F.B.O//

SUPERINTENDENT