

Number of L.P. Schools (Government, Government-aided, SSA and EGS Centres) and Enrolment covered during 2007-08

Cooked Mid Day meal is provided to all Government LP Schools, Government aided LP Schools and EGS Centres

| District | Govt. LP | Govt. Aided LP | EGS Centres | Total |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| East Khasi Hills | 194 | 902 | 213 | 1309 |
| Ri-Bhoi | 134 | 332 | 159 | 625 |
| West Khasi Hills | 274 | 881 | 224 | 1379 |
| Jaintia Hills | 321 | 296 | 470 | 1087 |
| East Garo Hills | 486 | 265 | 255 | 1006 |
| West Garo Hills | 851 | 494 | 277 | 1622 |
| South Garo Hills | 279 | 142 | 191 | 612 |
| Total | 2539 | 3312 | 1789 | 7640 |

Children who participated in the Mid Day Meal Programme during 2007-08

| Districts | Primary Enrolment | | | Enrolment | Total |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Boys | Girls | Total | EGS | Enrolment |
| | | | | | 4 & 5 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. East Khasi Hills | 75725 | 69900 | 145625 | 9495 | 155120 |
| 2. Ri Bhoi | 20204 | 18649 | 38853 | 11502 | 50355 |
| 3. West Khasi Hills | 54057 | 49897 | 103954 | 4320 | 108274 |
| 4. Jaintia Hills | 38642 | 35669 | 74311 | 4850 | 79161 |
| 5. East Garo Hills | 29731 | 27444 | 57175 | 9207 | 66382 |
| 6. West Garo Hills | 59503 | 54925 | 114428 | 16074 | 130502 |
| 7. South Garo Hills | 13062 | 12056 | 25118 | 12684 | 37802 |
| Total | 290924 | 268540 | 559464 | 68132 | 627596 |

Educational Backward Block in Upper Primary Schools.

| Sl. No | District | Educational Backward Blocks (Upper Primary Schools) Enrolment | | |
|--------|------------------|---|--------------|--------------|
| | | Boys | Girls | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | East Garo Hills | 3017 | 2360 | 5377 |
| 2 | West Garo Hills | 2300 | 1886 | 4186 |
| 3 | South Garo Hills | 19251 | 19102 | 38353 |
| | Total | 24568 | 23348 | 47916 |

Upper Primary Schools totaling to 468 in number under 9 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) have been covered under Mid Day Meal Scheme. (East Garo Hills - *Songsak, Samanda*, West Garo Hills- *Selsalla, Dadenggiri, Tikrikilla, Betasing, Dalu & Zigzak*, and South Garo Hills - *Baghmar*).

Betasing, Dalu & Zigzak, and South Garo Hills - Baghmara).

Proposal for 2008 - 09

| | District | Primary Schools | EGS | Total |
|--|----------|-----------------|-----|-------|
|--|----------|-----------------|-----|-------|

**Upper Primary
Institutions Covered:-**

| | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | East Khasi Hills | 9 | 214 | 232 | 455 |
| 2 | Ri-Bhoi | 3 | 84 | 138 | 225 |
| 3 | West Khasi Hills | 13 | 184 | 207 | 404 |
| 4 | Jaintia Hills | 12 | 97 | 199 | 308 |
| 5 | East Garo Hills | 9 | 92 | 193 | 294 |
| 6 | West Garo Hills | 6 | 250 | 165 | 421 |
| 7 | South Garo Hills | 4 | 59 | 89 | 152 |
| Total | | 56 | 980 | 1223 | 2259 |

Enrolment 2008-09:-

| Sl. No | District | UPPER PRIMARY | | |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | Boys | Girls | Total |
| 1 | East Khasi Hills | 23876 | 28535 | 52411 |
| 2 | Ri Bhoi | 6963 | 7477 | 14440 |
| 3 | West Khasi Hills | 11816 | 13506 | 25322 |
| 4 | Jaintia Hills | 12945 | 14148 | 27093 |
| 5 | East Garo Hills | 5872 | 5879 | 11751 |
| 6 | West Garo Hills | 17845 | 17079 | 34924 |
| 7 | South Garo Hills | 4763 | 4821 | 9584 |
| Total | | 84080 | 91445 | 175525 |

PAB Approval for 2008-09 (Enrolment)

| Primary | Upper Primary |
|---------|------------------------|
| 260116 | 80% of 174824 = 139859 |

Number of working days = 200.

Prior to the year 2001-02, the food grain (Rice) was provided by the Government of India @ 3 kg per child per month for 10 academic months in a year and distributed as dry ration to the children. Therefore, there was no financial burden on the State Government for implementing the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. However, the Supreme Court in its order Dated 18th November, 2001 in W. P. (C) No. 196 of 2001- Peoples' Union for Civil Liberties versus the Union of India and others, directed the State Government to provide cooked mid-day meal containing 300 calories and 8-12 grams of proteins per child per day for a minimum of 200 days in a year to every child in Government and Government aided Primary schools.



The National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NPNSPE) commonly known as the Mid Day Meal Scheme has been implemented in the State of Meghalaya since 1995 by providing uncooked rice to primary school children @ 3 Kg per child per month. As per directive of the Supreme Court vide its order dated 28th November 2001 all the State Governments including the Government of Meghalaya were directed to implement the Mid Day Meal Scheme by providing every child in Government and Government aided lower primary schools with a cooked Mid Day Meal. The cost of conversion of food grains into hot cooked meals has to be met jointly by the Government of India @ Rs. 1.80p per child per day and the State Government @ Re. 0.20p per child per day for lower primary schools and @Rs.2.30 per child per day by Government of India and @ Re.0.20p by the State Government for upper primary schools. As it stands now cooked Mid Day Meal has been provided to all Government, Government aided primary schools and EGS Centres and upper primary schools in EBBs in the State. For implementation of the scheme, the Government of India provides food grain free of cost through Food Corporation of India (FCI). The Government of India also reimburses the cost of transportation of rice @ Rs. 50/- per quintal, which has been subsequently revised to @ Rs. 100/- per quintal. The transportation cost is initially paid by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) of the respective District and reimbursed by the Government of India..

In compliance with the orders of the Supreme Court of India, the State Government has taken steps to provide cooked meals for 10 months in a year to all the Government and Government aided primary schools and EGS centres. Government issued Notification No. EDN.130/93/837, Dtd. 29-11-2002 directing school Managing Committees of all Government and Government aided schools to implement provision of cooked Mid-Day Meal to all school children. Similar instructions have been issued by the Directorate of Elementary and Mass Education vide No.DEME/GB/Misc/MDM/4/2002/60, Dated: 10-12-2002 for providing cooked meals with required calories and proteins preferably locally available vegetables including fruits and bananas.

Calorific/Protein Value

In keeping with the National priorities the Mid Day Meal Programme in the State does not merely aim to provide cooked meal, but one with satisfying and prescribed nutritional norms. The nutritional norm that is being followed in the State consists of a minimum of 450 calories and 8-12 grams of proteins. Necessary instructions have been issued for providing cooked meals with required calories and proteins, preferably locally available vegetable including fruits, bananas and honey. A list of suggestive menu have been prepared with the help of the Central Nutrition Board and circulated to the Districts.



The number of days in a year where Mid Day Meal is to be given to the children is 210 days. The schools have been instructed to give Mid Day Meal regularly. Due to the absence of all weather kitchen sheds, the schools have been facing a lot of difficulty in cooking Mid Day Meal during rainy season. In spite of the difficulty, efforts have been made to ensure that Mid Day Meal is given regularly.

Instances of unhygienic food

Instances of unhygienic food served, children falling ill, supply of sub standard food items, diversion/misuse of resources and social discrimination has not been reported from any quarter. Strict instructions were given to the subsidiary offices that the fund released for implementation of MDM should not be utilized for any other

System for cooking, serving and supervising Mid Day Meals in the School

Instructions have been issued to the School Managing Committees to make necessary arrangement for appointment of Cooks by utilizing the amount earmarked under labour in the break-up of conversion cost. In many places Mother's Union, NGOs and SHGs are actively involved for cooking and serving of Mid Day Meal in schools. Supervision works have been entrusted to the Deputy Inspector of Schools and his inspecting staff as well as to touring District Officers of other Departments. Further the work of supervision is also vested on the Block Mission Coordinators, Cluster Resource Centres and Village Education Committees.

The State had held consultative meetings with the Nutrition Board and worked out standard Menus for Mid Day Meals in Schools. These were suggestive menus and printed on the inside front cover of the exercise books distributed to the LP School children.

Status of construction of kitchen sheds.

Rs. 1523.40 Lakhs has been received from Mid Day Meals Scheme towards the fag end of 2006-07 for construction of Kitchen Sheds. This amount is being utilized in 2007-08. No fund was received from any other development programmes like SGRY, BRGF etc during 2007-08. It is suggested that construction of kitchen sheds should be taken up by MHRD with the Ministry of Rural Development for inclusion in the list of permissible works in Chapter 5 of the Operational Guidelines of NREGA, 2005

Status of procurement of kitchen devices.

The fund for procurement of kitchen devices is released from the State to the Deputy Inspector of Schools who in turn will release the same to the School Managing Committees for procurement of kitchen-devices. The list of materials to be procured by each school is also prepared at the State level.

Systems to ensure transparency and openness.

In order to ensure that quality meals are served to all the eligible children, the active participation of the School Managing Committees in general and Mothers' Unions, NGOs, SHGs, in particular has been obtained by and large. Transparency is maintained in foodgrains management, ingredients procurement, cooking and serving, appointment of cooking staff, procurement of cooking devices etc. through periodic dissemination of information on the scheme in newspapers, journals especially on special occasions apart from the fact that the menu is printed on the inside cover page of exercise books.

Status of School Health Programme.

The matter of administering of micronutrients like Iron, Folic Acid and Vitamins and other appropriate supplements along with 6 monthly doses

should not be utilized for any other purposes. In Meghalaya there is absolutely no social discrimination of students taking part in MDM Scheme.

Monitoring Mechanism

Comprehensive monitoring of the scheme was taken up by the inspecting staff including personnel from the Elementary & Mass Education Department and also SSA functionaries like BMC, BRP and CRP. Steering and Monitoring Committees have also been set up at the State, District and Block levels. At the District levels regular meetings are conducted by the Deputy Commissioners to monitor the scheme.

Arrangement for departmental inspections.

Mid Day Meal Scheme inspection is done simultaneously with normal school inspection by the Deputy Inspectors, Sub Inspectors, SEO, LSEO, BMC, BRP and CRP. During school inspections, the inspecting staff has been instructed to specially look into aspects of implementation of MDM Scheme like quality of cooked meals given to the children and tasting of food by the teachers. In every quarter almost 25% of schools are inspected but compilation and submission of reports had not been quite satisfactory due to lack of equipment and manpower at the Sub-Divisional level. Despite these limitations, the State Government is trying to improve the situation.

Vitamins and other appropriate supplements along with 6 monthly doses of de-worming tablets to the children has been taken up with the health department. Simultaneously school health programme is also being conducted in schools. There was no mechanism of health checks in the past. However, recently a meeting between Education Department and Health Department was convened during which it was agreed that health checks would start from the beginning of the year 2008 school session. To begin with, the health department will be conducting health checks in 308 schools falling under 28 Community Health Centres. The programme is expected to extend to many more schools in the near future. 1579 schools are being provided with weighing machines.

Measures Taken to Rectify.

(a) Inter-district low and uneven utilization of food grains and cooking cost.

There has been a disparity of allocation of foodgrain to the three Districts of the State namely, Jaintia Hills, West Khasi Hills and Ri Bhoi. The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Human Resource & Development, Government of India and the same has been duly rectified albeit after quite a few months.

(b) Intra-district mismatch in utilization of food grains and cooking cost.

No such instances have been detected so far.

(c) Delay in delivering cooking cost at school level.

During review meetings it was learned that some Deputy Commissioners had taken more time than normally required to release funds to the Deputy Inspectors of Schools and the latter had also erred in a similar way in the matter of releasing funds to the schools under their jurisdictions. Fresh instructions were issued that not more than 15 days should be taken to release funds from the Deputy Commissioners to the Deputy Inspectors and from the Deputy Inspectors to the Schools. In order to expedite fund release from the Deputy Inspectors to the schools, Deputy Inspectors were advised to hold a public function in the Sub-Divisional Head Quarters during which cheques should be distributed and receipts obtained.

Impact

Mid Day Meal Scheme has increased enrolment in schools. In 2007-08 the enrolment was 627596 in both the Primary Schools and EGS Centres and in the year 2008-09 it has increased to 737413. There are reports from different parts of the State that more children are attracted to school with the introduction of cooked Mid Day Meal Scheme. As such attendance also has increased in schools.

North Eastern Hill University (NEHU) has been commissioned to take up Third Party Evaluation of the Scheme. The outcome of the evaluation which will be an independent assessment of the implementation will give the State an actual/accurate picture based on which the strengths and weaknesses of the Scheme can be more definitely known. The State Resource Centre (NEHU) is yet to submit its evaluation report on the study conducted.

lessening their hesitation to send their children to school where they do not have to worry about providing food to the children during school hours. Mid Day Meal Programme will enhance the learning capacity of children as nutritious food is served to them every day although no study has as yet been conducted on this. At present the only problem that we are facing is the lack of pucca kitchen-sheds where Mid Day Meal can be cooked and served inspite of any kind of weather.