

**F. No. 1-3/2020-EE-6 (MDM-3-1)**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Education  
Department of School Education & Literacy  
[Mid-Day Meal Division]

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi,  
Dated the September 04, 2020

To

The Principal Accounts Officer,  
Ministry of Education,  
Principal Accounts Office,  
Shastri Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

**Subject: Release of recurring central assistance for Food Security Allowance during summer vacation as one time measure due to COVID-19 to the State Govt. of Himachal Pradesh for National Programme of Mid Day Meal in schools for the year 2020-21.**

Sir,

I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India to **Rs. 612.38 lakh (Rupees Six Crore Twelve Lakh and Thirty Eight Thousand only)** to State Government of Himachal Pradesh as recurring Central Assistance for Food Security Allowance during summer vacation as one time measure due to COVID-19 under National Programme of Mid Day Meal in schools for the year 2020-21, as per component wise details given below:

(Rs. in Lakh)

| Sl. No.                        | Component/norm            | Central Share |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1                              | 2                         | 3             |
| <b>Primary + Upper Primary</b> |                           |               |
| 1                              | Cost of Food grains       | 37.30         |
| 2                              | Cooking Cost              | 555.44        |
| 3                              | Transportation Assistance | 19.64         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   |                           | <b>612.38</b> |

2.(i) *The State Finance Department must release Central Assistance along with the minimum matching contribution of State share to the Education Department or the nodal department for implementation of Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) immediately.*

(ii) *The Education Department or the nodal department for MDMS must release the Central Assistance as well as State Government's matching contribution to the schools/implementing agencies within a week.*

3. The expenditure of **Rs. 612.38 lakh (Rupees Six Crore Twelve Lakh and Thirty Eight Thousand only)** will be debited to Demand No. 58- Department of School Education & Literacy, 3601 (Major Head) – Grant-in-Aid to State Governments This amount is to be trifurcated into following heads:

(i) **Rs. 410.54 lakh (Rupees Four Crore Ten Lakh and Fifty Four Thousand Only)** will be debited to Demand No. 58 - Department of School Education & Literacy, 3601 (Major Head) – Grant-in-Aid to State Governments, 06 – Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Sub-Major Head), **101 – Central Assistance (Minor Head)**, 10 – National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools (Sub Head), 10.02 – Assistance to States Amount to be met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (Detailed Head), 10.02.31 – Grants-in-aid General for 2020-21(Plan).

(ii) **Rs. 168.10 Lakh (Rupees One Crore Sixty Eight Lakh and Ten Thousand Only)** will be debited to Demand No. 58 - Department of School Education & Literacy, 3601 (Major Head) – Grant-in-Aid to State Governments, 06 – Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Sub-Major Head), **789 – Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes (Minor-Head)**, 10– **National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools** (Sub Head), 10.02 – Assistance to States Amount to be met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (Detailed Head), 10.02.31 – Grants-in-aid General for 2020-21 (Plan).

(iii) **Rs. 33.74 Lakh (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh and Seventy Four Thousand Only)** will be debited to Demand No. 58 - Department of School Education & Literacy, 3601 (Major Head) – Grant-in-Aid to State Governments, 06 – Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Sub-Major Head), **796 – Tribal Area Sub Plan (Minor-Head)**, 10 - **National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools** (Sub Head), 10.02 – Assistance to States Amount to be met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (Detailed Head), 10.02.31 – Grants-in-aid General for 2020-21(Plan).

4. Accordingly, I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India to release of **Rs. 168.10 Lakh (Rupees One Crore Sixty Eight Lakh and Ten Thousand Only)** to Govt. of Himachal Pradesh as recurring Central assistance under National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools for the year 2020-21.

5. The expenditure of **Rs. 168.10 Lakh (Rupees One Crore Sixty Eight Lakh and Ten Thousand Only)** will be debited to Demand No. 58 - Department of School Education & Literacy, 3601 (Major Head) – Grant-in-Aid to State Governments, 06 – Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Sub-Major Head), **789 – Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes (Minor-Head)**, 10– **National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools** (Sub Head), 10.02 – Assistance to States Amount to be met from Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (Detailed Head), 10.02.31 – Grants-in-aid General for 2020-21 (Plan). **3601.06.789.10.02.31**

6. The above grant is subject to the following conditions: -

**[A] COST OF FOODGRAINS:**

- (i) District administration will ensure that every consuming unit maintains a buffer stock of food grains required for a month to avoid disruption due to unforeseen exigencies.
- (ii) The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution has decided that the food grain would be supplied under Mid Day Meal Scheme at the National Food Security Act (NFSA) rates viz. Rs.2.00 per kg for wheat and Rs.3.00 per kg for rice instead of Below Poverty Line rates (Rs.4.15 per kg for wheat and Rs.5.65 per Kg for rice) during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year 2020-21. It is, therefore, advised that the payment of food grains to Food Corporation of India may be made at NFSA rates in respect of the food grains lifted by the State. District administration will ensure the payment of the bills raised by FCI within 20 days of the submission of bills as per the guidelines issued by this Department vide letter No. **1-15/2009-Desk(MDM) dated 10.2.2011**. The taxes if any levied by the State/UT would be borne by the Govt. of India.
- (iii) State Government will nominate an officer who will be responsible for receiving the bills submitted by FCI and ensuring payment to it in time. FCI will intimate its account number and mode of receiving of payment to the nodal officer, who should be made responsible for transferring money/depositing cheque in that account. State Govt. will ensure timely payment to FCI by district authority.
- (iv) All other provisions made in the above guidelines issued should be strictly complied.
- (v) The States/UTs may evolve a system for on-line payment to FCI to avoid delay.
- (vi) The information on month-wise payment to FCI may be made available to this Department on regular basis.

**[B] COOKING COST:**

- (i) State/UT's norm of expenditure towards cooking cost shall under no circumstances be fixed at a level less than **Rs.4.97** per child per school day for primary stage and **Rs.7.45** per child per school day for upper primary stage and Special Training Centres (STC) schools.
- (ii) State Government should release 10% minimum mandatory State Share of cooking cost simultaneously.
- (iii) States/UTs will not reduce its own budgetary allocation for cooked Mid-Day Meal Programme below the level of BE: 2005-06.
- (iv) As stipulated in the MDM Guidelines, 2006 [para 3.3(iv)], States/UTs shall ensure that a minimum of one-month's requirement of cooking cost is available in each school as advance through-out 2020-21.
- (v) The States/UTs may evolve online transfer of funds to schools/implementing agencies.

**[C] TRANSPORTATION COST:**

- (i) The admissibility of transportation assistance for 12 Special Category States has been revised to the rate prevalent under the public Distribution System (PDS) in these States/UTs viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand in place of the earlier assistance at a flat rate of **Rs. 125/-** per quintal vide order No. 1-1/2009-Desk(MDM) dated 24.11.2009 effective from 1.12.2009. The utilisation of this grant should be commensurate with the actual quantity of food grains lifted and transported under the Scheme. Requirement of Transportation cost may vary from district to district within State/UT depending upon the topography and distance to be transported. States/UTs may therefore, reallocate this grant amongst the districts as per the requirement and as per State/UT norms.

**[D] GENERAL**

The grant shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (i) It shall be utilized only for undertaking activities proposed in the Annual Work Plan & Budget for the year **2020-21** and subject to the approval of the Programme Approval Board, and by the Government of India on the basic norms of expenditure.
- (ii) The assets, if any, acquired wholly or substantially out of this grant, should not, without the prior sanction of the Government of India, be disposed off, encumbered or utilized for purposes other than those for which the grant has been sanctioned.
- (iii) The grantee shall maintain a separate and proper account of the expenditure incurred out of the grant and the accounts so maintained shall be open to audit by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India or any authority deputed by him for the purpose as per rules.
- (iv) The State Government shall contribute and release their minimum mandatory share simultaneously to implementing agencies.
- (v) The grantee shall furnish this Department with item-wise statement of expenditure on a quarterly basis and other reports on physical and financial progress in the prescribed formats. The grantee will also submit annual progress within one month from the close of the financial year. The unspent balance, if any shall be taken into account before funds of subsequent years are released.
- (vi) The grantee shall follow strictly all the instructions issued by the Govt. of India from time to time with regard to the implementation of the Scheme and the funds earmarked for Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Sub Plan. Therefore, the funds are required to be further bifurcated into these minor budget heads i.e. for SCs and STs.

7. It is certified that the pattern of assistance under the Scheme has the prior approval of Ministry of Finance. It is also certified that the grant is being released in conformity with rules and principles of the Scheme.
8. The utilization certificate of this grant may be submitted to Govt. of India within three months of the next financial year.
9. The accounts of the grantee shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the provision of CAG (DPC) Act 1971 and Internal Audit by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, whenever the grantee is called upon to do so.
10. The amount of grant-in-aid is finally adjustable in the books of Principal Accounts Officer, Ministry of HRD, Department of School Education & Literacy, D-Wing, Ground Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 115. On receipt of sanction letter, the Principal Accounts Officer may issue an advice to the Reserve Bank of India (Central Accounts Section), Nagpur for affording credit to the balance of the State Government. The Principal Accounts Officer may forward a copy of the advice to the Accountant General and Finance Department of the State Government along with a copy to undersigned in the Department of School Education & Literacy. State Government shall send intimation regarding receipt of grant-in-aid to Principal Accounts Officer, Ministry of HRD, Department of School Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110115.
11. Grantee is located in **Himachal Pradesh** circle of account.
12. This issues with the concurrence of **Integrated Finance Division vide their Dy. No. 108/IFD/SE&L/2020 dated 26.08.2020** and funds certified by **IF.2 vide Dy. No. 210/2020-IF.II dated 04.09.2020**.
13. The **Sanction ID and E-bill** pertaining to above release has already been generated.

Yours faithfully,

(अर्नब दास/ARNAB DAS DHAKI)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
भारत सरकार/Govt. of India  
शिक्षा मंत्रालय/Min. of Education  
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग/Div. School Education & Literacy  
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

Copy to:

1. Sh. Kamlesh Kumar Pant, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Education Department, H. P. Secretariat, Armsdale Building, Shimla-171 002.
2. The Director, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Education Department, H. P. Secretariat, Armsdale Building, Shimla-171 002
3. Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla. It is requested that funds released through this sanction letter may be transferred to the Education Department immediately.
4. Director General of Audit, Central Revenues, AGCR Building, New Delhi-110 001.
5. Desk (MDM)
6. Consultant (MDM) for website uploading.
7. Guard File

(अर्नब दास/ARNAB DAS DHAKI)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India  
भारत सरकार/Govt. of India  
शिक्षा मंत्रालय/Min. of Education  
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