

VISION, MISSION AND KEY OBJECTIVES

SAMAGRA SHIKSHA

The Union Budget, 2018-19, has proposed to treat school education holistically without segmentation from pre-nursery to Class 12. Samagra Shiksha - an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class 12 has been, therefore, prepared with the broader goal of improving school effectiveness measured in terms of equal opportunities for schooling and equitable learning outcomes. It subsumes the three erstwhile Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).

This sector-wide development programme /scheme would also help harmonise the implementation mechanisms and transaction costs at all levels, particularly in using state, district and sub-district level systems and resources, besides envisaging one comprehensive strategic plan for development of school education at the district level. The shift in the focus is from project objectives to improving systems level performance and schooling outcomes which will be the emphasis of the combined Scheme along-with incentivizing States towards improving quality of education

The scheme envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. The vision of the Scheme is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education from pre-school to senior secondary stage in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education.

The major objectives of the Scheme are provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students; Bridging Social and Gender Gaps in School Education; Ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels of school education; Ensuring minimum standards in schooling provisions; Promoting Vocationalisation of education; Support States in implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009; and Strengthening and up-gradation of SCERTs/ State Institutes of Education and DIET as a nodal agencies for teacher training.

The main outcomes of the Scheme are envisaged as Universal Access, Equity and Quality, promoting Vocationalisation of Education and strengthening of Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs).

The Scheme will be implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Department through a single State Implementation Society (SIS) at the State/UT level. At the National level, there would be a Governing Council headed by Minister of Human Resource Development and a Project Approval Board (PAB) headed by Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy. The Governing Council will be empowered to modify financial and programmatic norms and approve the detailed guidelines for implementation within the overall Framework of the scheme. Such modifications will include innovations and interventions to improve the quality of school education. The Department will be assisted by a Technical Support Group (TSG) at Educational Consultants of India Limited (EdCIL) to

provide technical support in functional areas pertaining to access, equity and quality education by merging the TSGs of the Schemes of SSA, RMSA and TE. States would be expected to bring a single Plan for the entire school education sector.

The fund sharing pattern for the scheme between Centre and States is at present in the ratio of 90:10 for the 8 North-Eastern States viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura and 3 Himalayan States viz. Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and 60:40 for all other States and Union Territories with Legislature. It is 100% centrally sponsored for Union Territories without Legislature. This is in accordance with the recommendations of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes received in October, 2015. The major interventions, across all levels of school education, proposed under the scheme are: (i) Universal Access including Infrastructure Development and Retention; (ii) Gender and Equity; (iii) Inclusive Education; (iv) Quality; (v) Financial support for Teacher Salary; (vi) Digital Initiatives; (vii) RTE Entitlements including uniforms, textbooks etc.; (viii) Pre-school Education; (ix) Vocational Education; (x) Sports and Physical Education; (xi) Strengthening of Teacher Education and Training; (xii) Monitoring; (xiii) Programme Management; and (xiv) National Component. It is proposed that preference in the interventions would be given to Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs), LWEs affected districts, Special Focus Districts (SFDs), Border areas and the 117 Aspirational districts. The main emphasis of the Scheme is on improving quality of school education by focussing on the two T's - Teacher and Technology. The strategy for all interventions under the Scheme would be to enhance the Learning Outcomes at all levels of schooling. The scheme proposes to give flexibility to the States and UTs to plan and prioritize their interventions within the scheme norms and the overall resource envelope available to them. Funds are proposed to be allocated based on an objective criteria based on enrolment of students, committed liabilities, learning outcomes and various performance indicators. The Scheme will help improve the transition rates across the various levels of school education and aid in promoting universal access to children to complete school education. The integration of Teacher Education would facilitate effective convergence and linkages between different support structures in school education through interventions such as a unified training calendar, innovations in pedagogy, mentoring and monitoring, etc. This single scheme will enable the SCERT to become the nodal agency for conduct and monitoring of all in-service training programmes to make it need-focused and dynamic. It would also enable reaping the benefits of technology and widening the access of good quality education across all States and UTs and across all sections of the Society.

Salient Features of Samagra Shiksha

The Samagra Shiksha scheme is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII. The scheme treats school education as a continuum and is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4). The scheme not only provides support for the implementation of the RTE Act but has also been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should

take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

The major interventions, across all levels of school education, proposed under the scheme are:

- Universal Access including Infrastructure Development and Retention;
- Foundational Literacy and Numeracy,
- Gender and Equity;
- Inclusive Education;
- Quality and Innovation;
- Financial support for Teacher Salary;
- Digital initiatives;
- RTE Entitlements including uniforms, textbooks etc.;
- Support for ECCE;
- Vocational Education;
- Sports and Physical Education;
- Strengthening of Teacher Education and Training;
- Monitoring;
- Programme Management; and
- National Component.

Library Grant

One of the major interventions for improving quality of education under the SamagraShiksha scheme includes provision for library and books across all levels of school education. It includes providing grant for libraries in government schools from class I to XII. The vision of this component is to develop school libraries as learning spaces that nurture life-long readers and seekers of knowledge and promote reading ability through relevant, age-appropriate, diverse and engaging books and other reading material.

Under the component ‘strengthening of existing schools’ of SamagraShiksha, a provision has been made to provide library room in schools where library rooms are not available. Sanction of library rooms may be proposed in schools not having library rooms in the annual work plan and budget proposal of the States/UT for consideration. The proposal may include the cost for civil work, furniture, almirah, racks, fixing and fittings.

The fund for library grant ranges from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 20000/- based on the category of the school. The Guideline issued earlier with regard to utilization of Library Grant under SamagraShiksha was largely limited to procurement. In the present guidelines dated 11.10.2021, issued to all the States & UTs, emphasis is being given for promotion of reading as a whole apart from development of libraries, selection and procurement of library books.

Further, the recommendations of New Education Policy, 2020 were also considered while framing the present guidelines.

During the Year 2021-22, an outlay of Rs. **716.13 Crore** was approved under Library Grant for Government Schools in States/UTs.

Sports Grant

The new integrated scheme SamagraShiksha envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels. The scheme includes the Sports and Physical Education component under which provision for grants for sports equipment for indoor and outdoor games in all government schools has been made.

Realizing the need for holistic development of children, under the SamagraShiksha, Sports and Physical Education component has been introduced for the first time for encouragement of Sports, Physical activities, Yoga, Co-curricular activities etc. A provision has been made for Government schools for grant for sports equipments at the rate of Rs. 5000 for Primary Schools, Rs. 10,000 for upper primary schools and up to Rs. 25,000 for secondary and senior secondary schools per annum. During the Year 2021-22, an outlay of Rs. 822.19 Crore has been approved under Sports Grant for Government Schools.

Ministry has issued guidelines to States and UTs to ensure proper utilization of sports grant. These guidelines include an indicative list of age appropriate sports equipments for government schools. Sport specific equipments may also be chosen by the schools, based on availability of infrastructure in the school including availability of playfield etc. States and UTs have been advised to encourage schools to include traditional/regional games of the respective State/Region. One responsible person/Physical Education Teacher (PET)/Teacher in charge in every school is to be given the responsibility to take care of the sports equipments and to maintain their stock position.

Brief on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE):

Background: As per the National Education Policy 2020 recommendations on ECCE the planning & implementation of Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) will be carried out jointly by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD). Further NEP 2020 also stressed to achieve universalisation of ECCE and to ensure that all students entering Grade 1 are school ready effective collaboration is required with all the ECCE stakeholders.

Programmatic & Financial Norms:

- At pre-school level support for training of Anganwadi workers for pre-school education in line with the NCERT Framework, co-location of Anganwadis in Primary Schools and curriculum development in convergence with Ministry/Department of Women and Child Development can be provided.

- Curriculum development in convergence with Ministry/Department of Women and Child Development aligned to the National Curricular and Pedagogical Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education (SCPFECCE) for children up to the age of 8 which will be developed by NCERT. (NEP Para 1.3)
- Numerous rich local traditions of India developed over millennia in ECCE involving art, stories, poetry, games, songs, and more, to be incorporated. (NEP Para 1.3)
- Training of Master Trainers for training of Anganwadi workers for pre-school education in line with the NCERT Framework.
- In-service teacher training would also include training for ECCE teachers as per existing norms on art-integrated, sport integrated, story-telling, experiential and toy based pedagogies.

Financial Norms:

- Recurring Grant, including manpower deployment and other teaching learning aids/ materials of up to Rs 2 lakh per school per annum for pre-primary sections in Govt. primary Schools.
- Provision of upto Rs. 500/ per child for Teaching Learning Materials, indigenous toys and games, play based activities per annum for pre-primary sections in Govt. Schools.
- Non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 1 lakh per school for Bala Features, Child friendly furniture, outdoor play materials etc. for pre-primary sections in Govt. Schools and co-located Anganwadis (once in 5 years).

Work Done on ECCE- As per the NEP 2020

- **Action taken by MoE for convergence with MoWCD:**
 - a. A letter dated 20th July 2017 has been issued to all States & UTs regarding integration of Anganwadis with primary schools to implement the pre-primary education under Samagra Shiksha.
 - b. A D.O letter was issued on 22nd September, 2020 to JS -MWCD with a request to share the kind of data maintained for 3-6 years old by WCD.
 - c. A DO letter was issued on 05th [October 2020](#) to JS-MWCD for sharing the ECCE -e-learning course to host the material on the DIKSHA e-learning portal.
 - d. A D.O. letter dated 05th October 2020 was issued to Secretary WCD for developing a long-term perspective plan for next 10 years to achieve quality universal access to ECCE and ensuring that all students entering Grade 1 are school ready.
 - e. A meeting dated 05th April 2021 has been conducted under the chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister WCD to discuss the roadmap for ensuring implementation of quality ECCE as per NEP 2020.
 - f. A D.O. letter to Secretary (WCD) has been issued on 1st June 2021 for sharing the data related to Anganwadis.
 - g. A meeting on 23rd June 2021 was chaired by Secretary DoSEL with Secretary MWCD and NCERT on Convergence issues related to ECCE.

h. A D.O letter Secretary (WCD) has been issued on 18th August 2021 by Joint Secretary, SS (I) on linkage between ECCE and Foundational Literacy & Numeracy and copy of NIPUN Bharat guidelines launched by MoE.

- **Constitution of Joint Task Force (JTF) on ECCE**

A JTF under the co-chairpersonship of Additional Secretary, MoE and MoWCD has been constituted on 27.09.2021.

- **Development and Integration of Data Capture Format of ECCE in UDISE+ portal**

MoWCD has finalized the DCF.

Brief on Vocational Education

The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing the scheme of Vocationalisation of School Education under the Umbrella of ‘Samagra Shiksha - an integrated scheme for school education’, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The scheme seeks to integrate vocational education with general academic education with an aim to prepare educated, employable and competitive human resource for various sectors of the economy and the global market. The scheme covers Government and Government aided schools.

Under Vocational Education component of ‘Samagra Shiksha’, NSQF compliant vocational courses are taught to the students from class 9th to 12th. At the secondary level i.e. Class IX and X, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Sr. Secondary level, i.e. class XI and XII, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. Vocational Courses based on the job roles which have been approved by National Skill Qualification Committee (NSQC) are offered in the schools. Vocational Courses are selected on the basis of notional hours, age & educational qualification prescribed and suitability for school students. The State Governments have been advised that Vocational courses are to be treated at par with other academic subjects and accorded a similar status in the scheme of subjects.

Employability Skill module has been made a mandatory part of the vocational Courses. It consists of Communication Skills, Self-Management Skills, Information and Communication Technology Skills, Entrepreneurship Skills and Green Skills.

The scheme has a provision for providing exposure of vocational education to students of Classes VI to VIII with an aim to provide opportunities to the students to orient themselves with the skills required for various occupations in a sector and to equip them to make informed choices while selecting their subjects in higher classes.

Till 2020-21, 12854 schools have been approved under the scheme out of which the scheme has so far been implemented in 10,859 schools with current reported enrolment of 13,50,175 students.

As per the National Education Policy, Vocational education will be integrated into all schools and higher education institutes in a phased manner over the next decade. Beginning with vocational exposure at early ages in middle and secondary school, quality vocational education will be integrated smoothly into higher education. It will ensure that every child learns at least on vocation and is exposed to several more. By 2025, at least 50% of learners through the school and higher education shall have exposure to vocational education.

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Financial Assistance for Appointment of Language Teachers (ALT)

This Department launched a restructured Appointment of Language Teachers (ALT) scheme on 21.10.2019, in consultation with Department of Expenditure and NITI Aayog. Initially the scheme received an approval only till 31st March, 2020. The ALT scheme was approved for further continuation on 29.06.2020, for a period till 31st March, 2021 or till the acceptance of the 15th Finance Commission report, whichever is earlier. The scheme had the following provisions:

(i) Provision for providing Honorarium to the tune of a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per month per teacher for Hindi Teachers in North Eastern States and Urdu Teachers in all States/UTs for classes VI and above. Urdu Teachers were to be provided in schools where 15 or more students in a class opt for it.

(ii) Provision for Non-Recurring grant for Strengthening/Establishment of Hindi Teacher Training Colleges in North Eastern States

ALT IN 2021-22

As per suggestions of NITI Aayog and Deptt of Expenditure and with the approval of Hon'ble Education Minister, ALT scheme has been subsumed under the overarching Samagra Shiksha scheme of this Department. In 2021-22, the ALT component has the following provisions:

- Assistance as Honorarium for Hindi Teachers limited to Rs. 30,000/- per month but not exceeding the amount of salary paid to regular language teachers in the States. This provision shall be limited only for NER and Non-Hindi speaking States covering all Classes.
- Assistance as Honorarium for Urdu Teachers limited to Rs. 30,000/- per month but not exceeding the amount of salary paid to regular language teachers in the States/UTs. This provision shall be limited only for Government and Aided Schools where 15 or more students per class opt for the language.

- Provision for Rs. 150/- per student for schools having language teachers has been made for ensuring distribution of bilingual teaching learning material and books.
- State/UT Governments should ensure that minimum qualifications for appointment of a language teacher shall be as per norms of RTE Act, 2009 and qualifications as prescribed by NCTE.
- Provision for in-service training for continuous professional development of teachers will be made as per norms of in-service training under Samagra Shiksha.

Brief on Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA):

Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) has been set up as convergent framework that aims at nurturing a spirit of inquiry and creativity, love for Science and Mathematics and effective use of technology amongst children of the age group of 6 to 18 years.

Some of the major activities under this intervention are setting up of RAA Lab, Tinkering Lab, Robotics Lab, STEM Lab, Astronomy Club, Participation in Science and Maths Olympiads, Distribution of Science and Maths Kit, Science Exhibition, Book Fair, Exposure Visit with in State and Twinning of School.

Community Mobilisation and Training of School Management Committee (SMC)/School Management and Development Committee (SMDC)

The Community Mobilisation activities are to enhance Community participation and monitoring for universal access, equity and quality. Workshops/Lectures/Programmes for creating Awareness on RTE Act, Learning Outcomes etc. State level portal to be prepared for creating a database of literate volunteers, retired scientists/government/semi government employees, alumni, an educators for this purpose. States/UTs will particularly prepare guidelines for parental engagement as mentors/resources/volunteers in schools to help the FLN mission and students in elementary and secondary schools. Guidelines will specifically cover involvement of community and alumni in volunteer efforts for enhancing learning, such as, one-on-one tutoring; the teaching of literacy and holding of extra-help sessions; teaching support and guidance for educators; career guidance and mentoring to students; etc. Schools will undertake community sensitization, parental advocacy and leveraging parents as a resource are source for ECCE/FLN/elementary/ secondary level. States/UTs will prepare online training modules for volunteers to understand how they can be involved in school education. The norms for the community mobilisation are upto @ ₹1500 per school for Government Schools subject of specific plan.

The Training of SMCs/SMDCs are to provide Capacity building and Support to SMCs/SMDCs. Schools will develop their School Development Plans(SDPs) with the involvement of their SMCs. These plans will then become the basis for the creation of School Cluster Development Plans(SCDP). The SDPs and SCDPs of all schools/school clusters of all states/UTs shall be in the public domain. The SMC will use the SDP and SCDP for oversight of the functioning and direction of the school and will assist in the

execution of these plans. SMC capacity to be built to give better student support, support in enrolment, attendance, and performance and support in improved governance, monitoring, oversight, innovations, and initiatives by local stakeholders. SCERT will prepare online training module of SMC members to be able to undertake all this. Schools will also interact with the SMC members to update them on latest developments. The norms for the Training of SMCs/SMDCs are up to ₹ 3000 per school for Government schools subject to a specific plan.

PRADHAN MANTRI POSHAN SHAKTI NIRMAN (PM POSHAN):

National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)” has had a long history in India. In 1925, a Mid Day Meal Programme was introduced for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation. By the mid 1980s three States viz. Gujarat, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and the UT of Pondicherry had universalized a cooked Mid Day Meal Programme with their own resources for children studying at the primary stage by 1990-91 the number of States implementing the mid day meal programme with their own resources on a universal or a large scale had increased to twelve states.

With a view to enhancing enrollment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE) was launched as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on **15th August 1995**, initially in 2408 blocks in the country. By the year 1997-98 the NP-NSPE was introduced in all blocks of the country. It was further extended in 2002 to cover not only children in classes I -V of Government, Government aided and local body schools, but also children studying in EGS and AIE centres. Central Assistance under the scheme consisted of free supply of food grains @ 100 grams per child per school day, and subsidy for transportation of food grains up to a maximum of Rs 50 per quintal.

1. In **September 2004** the scheme was revised to provide cooked mid day meal with 300 calories and 8-12 grams of protein to all children studying in classes I – V in Government and aided schools and EGS/ AIE centres. In addition to free supply of food grains, the revised scheme provided Central Assistance for (a) Cooking cost @ Re 1 per child per school day, (b) Transport subsidy was raised from the earlier maximum of Rs 50 per quintal to Rs. 100 per quintal for special category states, and Rs 75 per quintal for other states, (c) Management, monitoring and evaluation costs @ 2% of the cost of foodgrains, transport subsidy and cooking assistance, (d) Provision of mid day meal during summer vacation in drought affected areas.

2. In **July 2006** the scheme was further revised to provide assistance for cooking cost at the rate of (a) Rs 1.80 per child/school day for States in the North Eastern Region, provided the NER States contribute Rs 0.20 per child/school day, and (b) Rs 1.50 per child/school day for other States and UTs, provided that these States and UTs contribute Rs 0.50 per child/school day.

3. In **October 2007**, the scheme has been further revised to cover children in upper primary (classes VI to VIII) initially in 3479 Educationally Backwards Blocks (EBBs). Around 1.7 crore upper primary children were included by this expansion of the scheme. From 2008-09 i.e. w.e.f 1st April, 2008, the programme covers all children studying in Government, Local Body and Government-aided primary and upper primary schools and the EGS/AIE centres including Madarsa and Maqtabs supported under SSA of all areas across the country. The calorific value of a mid-day meal at upper primary stage has been fixed at a minimum of 700 calories and 20 grams of protein by providing 150 grams of food grains (rice/wheat) per child/school day.

Objectives - The objectives of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)”) are to address two of the pressing problems for majority of children in India, viz. hunger and education by:

- i) Improving the nutritional status of children studying in classes I – VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools, Special Training Centers (STC) and Madrasas &Maqtabs supported under Samagra Shiksha.
- ii) Encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities.
- iii) Providing nutritional support to children of elementary stage in drought-affected areas during summer vacation.

Achievements

- The National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools, popularly known as the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)”) is an on-going Centrally-Sponsored Scheme which covers all school children studying in Classes I-VIII of Government, Government-Aided, Special Training Centres including Madaras and Maqtabs supported under Samagra Shiksha. 11.80 crore children studying in 11.20 lakh institutions have been benefitted under the Scheme.
- A total of 25.71 lakh cook-cum-helpers have been engaged by the States/UTs under Mid-Day Meal Scheme (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)”) and more than 90% are women. Out of 25.71 lakh cooks, 21% SCs, 15% STs, 42% OBCs and 7% are from Minorities.
- With the approval of Hon’ble Shiksha Mantri, it was decided to provide monetary assistance through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of cooking cost component of MDM to all eligible children as per MDM norms for summer vacation period of 2021 only as a one time special welfare measure.

- An ad hoc grant of Rs. 2679 crore has been released to all the States and UTs in 2021-22 and 11.97 lakh MTs foodgrains were allocated to them under Mid Day Meal Scheme to ensure continuation of Mid Day Meal Scheme (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)”).
- Also during 2020-21, with the approval of Hon’ble Shiksha Mantri, this Department issued the advisories to States and UTs to provide Food Security Allowance, comprising of food grains and pulses, oil etc (equivalent to cooking cost) to enable children to meet their nutritional requirement in order to safe guard their immunity. Food Security Allowance has been provided to all enrolled children during closure of schools due to COVID pandemic and during summer vacations as a one time special measure for the first time in the history of the scheme. About 11.80 crore children are benefited under the scheme studying in 11.20 lakh school :-
- During 2020-21, Rs 12882.11 crore was released to States and UTs as central assistance and 34.45 lakh MT foodgrains was allocated to them.
- During COVID-19 pandemic, this Department has also held continuous consultations with the States and UTs at various levels in order to maintain healthy nutritional level of the children.
- Annual enhancement of cooking cost has been linked with inflation index. Cooking cost was enhanced by 10.99% from Rs. 4.48 to Rs. 4.97 per child per school day for primary children and from Rs. 6.71 to Rs. 7.45 per child per school day for upper primary children w.e.f. 01.04.2020.
- States and UTs have been encouraged to conduct social audit. Several States have successfully conducted social audit.
- School re-Opening - Detailed guidelines has been issued for resuming hot cooked mid day meal in schools. Hot cooked mid-day meal is being served in the States where schools have reopened. These broad guidelines are aimed at helping State/district/block authorities to prepare for resuming the normal cooking and serving of Mid-Day Meal in schools with focus on food safety, health, and hygiene along with physical/social distancing.
- To ensure continuous maintenance and monitoring of cleanliness and hygienic conditions in and around school premises.
- Cleanliness and hygiene should be maintained during midday meal preparation, serving, eating, and after eating the place and utensils, etc., should be properly cleaned.
- CCEA Note for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for continuation/Revisions/Modifications of MDMS has been approved by the Cabinet on 29.9.2021 during 2021-22 to 2025-26 and the Scheme has been renamed

as (Renamed as “Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)” with the financial outlay of Rs. 54061.73 Crore from the Central Government and Rs. 31733.17 Crore from State Governments and UT Administrations.

Components of the Scheme and norms of assistance

- i) Food Grains: Supply of food grains @ 100 grams per child per school day for primary and 150 grams for upper primary at NFSA rate i.e. Rs 2 per kg for wheat and Rs 3 per kg for rice. (100% Central Assistance)
- ii) Cooking Cost: It includes cost of ingredients, e.g. pulses, vegetables, cooking oil, other condiments and fuel. As approved by CCEA and finance ministry, Annual enhancement of cooking cost is linked with price index (Rs 4.97 – Pry, Rs 7.45 – U Pry w.e.f. 1.4.2020) (on Sharing basis)
- iii) Honorarium to Cook-cum-helpers (CCH): Honorarium of Rs. 1000 to each CCH per month. (on Sharing basis). 1 CCH up to 25 children, 2 CCH for 26-100 children, 1 more CCH for every addition of upto 100 children.
- iv) Transportation Assistance: As per PDS rate for transportation of food grains from FCI godown to school door steps. Maximum Rs. 1500 per MT for transportation of food grains from FCI godown to school door steps for States other than NER and 2 Himalayan States and UTs. (100% Central Assistance)
- v) Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME): @ 3% of above recurring components (1+2+3+4). (100% Central Assistance)
- vi) Kitchen-cum-store: as per plinth area norm and State Schedule of Rates. (on Sharing basis). 20 sqmeter for schools having enrolment of 100 students. Addition of 4 sq meter for every addition of up to 100 students. (on Sharing basis)
- vii) Kitchen devices: Linked with enrolment. (on Sharing basis)
- viii) Repair of kitchen-cum-stores: Rs 10,000/- per unit, for the kitchen-cum-stores, which were constructed 10 years ago.(on Sharing basis)
- ix) Flexi Funds (School Nutrition Garden and Supplementary nutrition):5% of the total recurring assistance, within the approved outlay.
- x) New Component of Balvatika(Pre-Primary) under the PM Poshan covering 24 Lakhs children has also been approved by the Cabinet on 29.09.2021.

National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS):

The Central Sector Scheme 'National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme' was launched in May, 2008 after getting approval from CCEA with the objective to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage. One lakh fresh scholarships are awarded to selected students of class IX every year and their continuation/renewal in classes X to XII for study in a State Government, Government-aided and Local body schools under the scheme.

The scheme has been approved for continuation for three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of Education and Hon'ble Finance Minister after appraisal by EFC. As per the latest provision under the scheme the scholarship amount is enhanced from Rs. 6000/- to Rs. 12000/- per year with effect from 1st April, 2017.

Eligibility criteria:

Students whose parental income from all sources is not more than Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum are eligible to avail the scholarships. The students must have minimum of 55 % marks or equivalent grade in Class VII examination for appearing in selection test for award of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students). The students should be studying as regular student in a Government, Government-aided and local body schools. Students of NVS, KVS and residential schools are not entitled for the scholarships. There is reservation as per State Government norms.

Selection of fresh Awardee Students:

Each State/UT conducts its own test for selection of students for the award of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship. The test is conducted at stage of class-VIII. The students, who fulfill the eligibility criteria, must pass both the tests, i.e., Mental Ability Test (MAT) and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) under NMMSS exam with at least 40 % marks in aggregate taken together for these two tests. For the SC/ST students, this cut off is 32% marks.

Selection of Renewal Awardee Students:

The awardees should get minimum of 55% marks in Class IX and XI, while a minimum of 60% in Class X for continuance of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST candidates).

Disbursement of Scholarships:

The scheme is fully on boarded on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) from 2018-19. The State Governments / UT Administrations send the proposals/ list of eligible beneficiaries to the Ministry. The Ministry scrutinizes the proposal and sanction funds from Annual Budget Provision for releasing them to SBI, the implementing bank for scheme for disbursement of scholarships to students directly into their bank accounts by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).
