

F. No.1-10/2009 -Desk (MDM)
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of School Education & Literacy
MDM Division

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
Dated the 8th October, 2009.

To

The Principle Secretary/Secretary to the States/UTs Govt of nodal Department of Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

Subject: Not to involve teachers in cooking and its supervision under the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme

Sir/Madam,

Para 4.3 of the guidelines of the Mid Day Meal Scheme provides that teachers should under no circumstances, be assigned such responsibilities under Mid Day Meal Scheme that will impede or interfere with teaching-learning process. Teachers are to be involved only in ensuring that good quality, wholesome food is served to children, the actual serving and eating is undertaken in a spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in orderly manner during the lunch break of 30-40 minutes.

2. During the various review meetings State / UT Governments have regularly been requested not to involve teachers in the process of cooking or its supervision. However, during field visits by the officers of this Department, it has been noticed that in some schools teachers are involved in receipt of foodgrains, procurement of vegetables and condiments and supervision of preparation of mid-day meals. This results in loss of valuable teaching time. Comptroller and Auditor General in its Report No. PA 13 of 2008 on MDM tabled before the Parliament has also made similar observations.

4. State/UTs are, therefore, requested to ensure that teachers are not at all involved in the process of cooking and its supervision. However, teachers must taste the food and supervise the activities of children while taking mid-day meal in schools.

Yours faithfully,

Sd-

(Anant Kumar Singh)
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tele No. 23387648