

No. 1-5/2000-Desk (MDM)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Department of Elementary Education & Literacy

New Delhi-1, dated 16 October, 2002

To

All State Education Secretaries and Nodal Officers  
I/c of NP-NSPE (Mid Day Meal Scheme)

Subject: Students of Education Guarantee Scheme - coverage under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal)

Sir,

As envisaged in the guidelines for central assistance under the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education, all government, local body and government aided schools are covered under the programme. It implies that eligibility criteria for coverage of a school under the programme is (i) it should be a formal school for primary education and (ii) it should be set up by the government, local body or should be an aided by the government.

After discontinuation of Non Formal Education Centres, a new scheme of "Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative & Innovative Education" has been introduced which provide setting up of Education Guarantee Schools (Centres) as feeder schools to formal primary schools for "Out of School" children for providing formal education upto primary level not having access to a schooling facility within 1 Km of the small and un-served habitation. These EGS Centres are funded by the Central and State Governments where these are set up by the States.

Since these schools fulfil the criteria for coverage under NP-NSPE, the existing guidelines of NP-NSPE are mutatis mutandis applicable to these schools like other formal primary schools already covered under the programme. Therefore, it has decided with the approval of the competent authority to provide Mid Day Meal to the children in these Schools also.

All States/UTs are, therefore, requested to furnish enrolment in the these EGS Centres in the enclosed proforma for allocation of foodgrains for their children studying upto primary level in these Centre for the remaining months of the current academic year 2002-2003. It may please be ensured that enrolment in Non Formal Education Centres, if any, and private un-aided primary schools should not be included.

Yours faithfully,

(Suhail Ansari)  
Desk Officer (MDM)