

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



# School Meals in India – Tracking State Government Response to COVID-19

## January-March 2021



*Note: The report has been generated based on published newspaper articles, official media reports and phone calls to respective state government officials, UNICEF colleagues and other development partners. The information for Phase IV was collected between the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February and the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March 2021*

**Photo Credits:** Received from Divan Mydeen, MDM Director, Andhra Pradesh/Mahesh Kumar Nayak, Assistant Director, MDM, Chhattisgarh

## Background

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is a flagship programme of the Government of India wherein hot cooked meals are provided to school children studying in Classes I to VIII (aged 6 – 14 years) across all government and government-aided schools with the aims of enhancing enrolment, retention, attendance and simultaneously improving the nutritional status of school children. In terms of numbers of children, India's Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme is considered to be the world's largest school meals programme.

In response to the COVID 19 pandemic, all the schools across India were closed in March 2020 as a precautionary measure to protect the children from the virus. As a result, provision of hot cooked meal in the school for the children was also stopped.

WFP has been monitoring the COVID-MDM response through tracking and documenting the response across States since March 2020 and this is the Fourth Report in the series. The objectives of this monitoring are:

- To map how the MDM was adapted and implemented across the country in response to COVID 19 Pandemic and school closures.
- To identify and share best practices in the responses amongst States/UTs in order for States to learn from each other and accordingly adapt their programmes.
- To share the best practices responses within India with other countries.

## Summary of response during closure of schools by Government of India

To ensure regular supply of MDM to all eligible children, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 and the Mid-Day Meal Rules 2015 mandate that if MDM is not provided in school on any school day for any reason, the State Government shall pay a **Food Security Allowance (FSA)** to students' by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month, consisting of:

- In-kind food grains (kgs) as per the entitlement of each child
- Cash equalling the prevailing cooking cost in the State.

The following is the timeline of actions by the National Government:

- **March 20, 2020** - Ministry of Human Resource Development (now the Ministry of Education) issued a guidance requesting States and UTs to provide either hot cooked mid-day meals in schools or the food security allowance to all eligible children.
- **April 30, 2020** - the Ministry of Education issues guidance requesting States and UTs to continue provision of MDM or food security allowance, **during the summer vacations**.
- **July 31, 2020** - The Ministry of Education issues a letter advising the States and UTs to provide the food grains and cooking cost to the children as per their entitlements. The letter also highlighted that all the schools would remain closed till 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 and requested the concerned authorities in the States and UTs to ensure distribution of food grains and pulses, oil etc. (equivalent to cooking cost) by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020, following all the social distancing guidelines.
- **September 15, 2020** – Advisory sent to all States and UTs to provide *“food security allowance, to children to enable them to meet their nutritional requirements and safeguard their immunity during closure of schools.”*
- **October 5, 2020** - the Ministry of Education issues detailed guidelines for the reopening of schools in a graded manner, providing the flexibility to the States and UTs to decide after October 15, 2020, in consultation with the schools management, and no student should be forced to attend school without their parents' consent.



Copies of the guidance may be downloaded at the following links:

- [http://mdm.nic.in/mdm\\_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/JS\\_DO-Letters/D.O%20Letter-29-04-2020.pdf](http://mdm.nic.in/mdm_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/JS_DO-Letters/D.O%20Letter-29-04-2020.pdf)
- [http://mdm.nic.in/mdm\\_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/JS\\_DO-Letters/DO\\_Letter\\_Food%20Security%20Allowance-31-7-2020.pdf](http://mdm.nic.in/mdm_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/JS_DO-Letters/DO_Letter_Food%20Security%20Allowance-31-7-2020.pdf)
- [http://mdm.nic.in/mdm\\_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/Review%20Meeting%20Through%20VC.pdf](http://mdm.nic.in/mdm_website/Files/OrderCirculars/2020/Review%20Meeting%20Through%20VC.pdf)
- [https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHANewguidelines\\_30092020.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHANewguidelines_30092020.pdf)

## Current State and UT level analysis of MDM implementation in response to COVID-19

The following are some of the major findings of the Jan-March 2021 COVID-MDM response tracking exercise.

- *Elementary classes are fully reopened in **10 States and UTs** and partially reopened (only classes 6-8) in **15 States and UTs**.*
- *MDM is functional in one form or another in **35 of 36 States and UTs** with Telangana being the only State where MDM is not functional.*
- ***7 States and UTs** are providing hot cooked meals while **4 other States** are providing a mix of hot cooked meals and food-security allowance (FSA)*
- ***24 States and UTs** are providing FSA in various forms - details are captured below.*
- ***24 States and UTs** have prepared SOP/Guidelines for opening of schools or functioning of MDMS.*
- ***16 of the States and UTs** are distributing dry rations at the schools, following the COVID 19 protocols to parents/children*

## Summary of State and UT responses during January-March 2021

Below is an update of actions of all States and UTs regarding MDM implementation in the first quarter of 2021.

### Reopening of schools

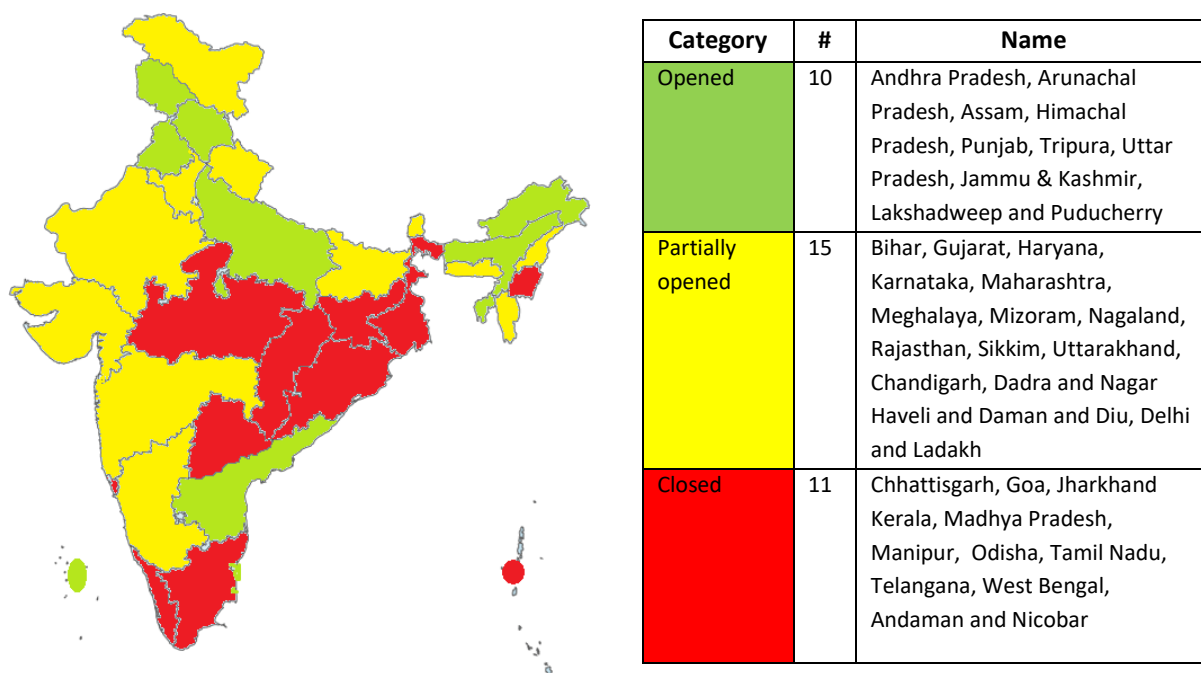
Schools in India gradually started reopening in December 2020 with many States and UTs opening the upper secondary (class 11-12) and secondary sections (class 9-10) first, followed by upper primary and primary classes.

As of March 2021, elementary classes (primary and upper primary classes, target group for MDM) are:

- **Fully reopened** in 10 States and UTs
- **Partially opened** (only classes 6-8) in 15 States and UTs and
- **Closed** in 11 States and UTs

As a precautionary measure, a few States and UTs have adopted some special measures regarding attendance of children such as in Uttar Pradesh, where children in Classes 1-8 attend schools only twice a week with only 50% attendance and in Puducherry, where children are coming to schools on alternate days, as per the roll numbers.

**Figure 1: State/UT specific status of school reopening**

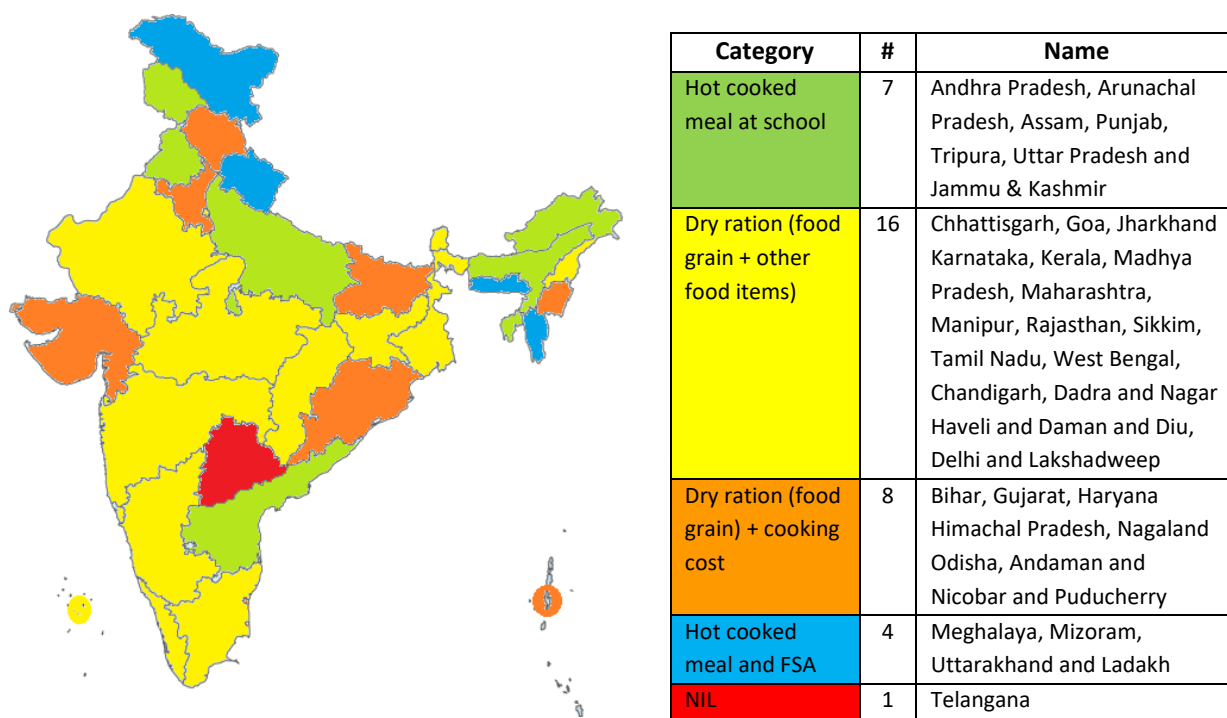


### Functionality of Mid-Day Meal in schools

Since the first phase of lockdown (March 2020), many States and UTs have taken initiatives to keep MDM functional. During the tracking period (January-March 2021), MDM was found to be functional in various forms in nearly all States and UTs. During this period, MDM is deemed functional in the form of provision of hot cooked meal in schools, provision of FSA or a mix of hot cooked meal and FSA. The FSA provided by the States/UTs consists of dry ration as well as a combination of dry ration and cooking cost. The following is the status:

- 7 states are providing hot cooked meals. However, in 4 states namely, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Ladakh the government is using a mixed approach where a hot cooked meal is served to upper primary students while FSA is provided to primary students as schools continue to remain closed for these children. In Assam schools are providing hot cooked meals to elementary students attending classes and also providing FSA to absent students.
- In the remaining 24 States, FSA is being provided. In 8 of the 24 States, both dry food rations and cooking cost is being provided while in the remaining 16 states only dry food rations are being provided which may vary from only grains to a more nutritious food basket consisting of grains, pulses, oil, potatoes, eggs, salt, condiments etc.
- 1 state (Telangana) not functioning in any form.

**Figure 2: State/UT specific status of MDM**



### Modality of Food Security Allowances (FSA) distribution

- 16 States and UTs are distributing through schools (following the COVID 19 protocols) to parents/children.
- 9 States have adopted a mixed model of distribution through schools or fair price shops or to doorstep.
- In most of the cases, 2-3 months of food grains and other food items are distributed at a time.

### Preparedness for reopening schools

To date, 24 States and UTs (67%) have prepared SOPs or Guidelines for opening of schools or implementation of MDM.

- They mostly focus on issues such as roles and responsibilities of cooks-cum-helpers for cooking and serving of meals, maintaining hygiene in kitchen cum store, and generic preventive measures to be followed.
- Several have adapted the SOP issued by Ministry of Education for this purpose.
- In the 11 States and UTs where schools have reopened and MDM is being implemented, they all had prepared SOPs before resuming the MDM.

## State specific information

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>YES</b> - Primary classes opened since 1st February and Upper Primary since 2nd week of November	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	SOP issued by the Nodal Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stopped supply of dry ration from 31st January 2021.</li> </ul>	Mr. Divan Mydeen, Director, MDM
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	<b>YES</b> - Both primary and Upper Primary started since 1st February	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	SOP Prepared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food grains and cooking cost deposited in bank accounts till January 2021</li> </ul>	Mr. T Gao, Director, Education Department
<b>Assam</b>	<b>YES</b> - Grades 6-12 opened in November 2020; Grades 1-5 opened in January 2021.	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	Schools reopened as per the SoP by Government of Assam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although hot cooked meals are provided, Assam continues to provide food grains, pulses, condiments, oil, vegetables, and eggs to absent students.</li> <li>The dry ration is delivered to the doorstep by the School Management Committee and Panchayat members.</li> <li>Distribution has been completed up to January 2021.</li> </ul>	Mr. Shamim Bahar Laskar, State Programme Manager, MDM. Mr. Netrajyoti, Assam MDM
<b>Bihar</b>	<b>NO</b> - Primary <b>YES</b> - Upper Primary opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distributed from school.</li> <li>Cooking cost deposited into the bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	Primary classes expected to re-open from March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food grain distribution completed till December 2020.</li> <li>Distribution of cooking cost (DBT) completed till September 2020.</li> </ul>	Mr. Madan Roy, Asst. Director, MDM

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	<b>NO</b>  Only classes 9-12 opened	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, oil, achar and soya chunks	Dry ration distribution from school or home delivery	Not yet decided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food packets prepared and distributed by self-help groups.</li> <li>Distribution for January and February 2021 (46 days) is on-going.</li> <li>For large schools, the food packets are being collected by the parents at schools.</li> </ul>	Mr. Mahesh Kumar Nayak, Assistant Director, MDM
<b>Goa</b>	<b>NO</b>  Grades 9-12, schools open with 50% capacity since Dec 2020.	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, jaggery, soyabean oil	Dry ration distribution from school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No decision yet on school reopening for grades 1-5</li> <li>The department is collecting feedback from the schools on the COVID parameters being followed.</li> <li>The schools have been given SoP for reopening the schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instead of cooking costs, the state is providing: Moong pulses - 2kg for primary children; 2.5 kg for upper primary; Jaggery-2kg for primary children; 4 kg for upper primary; Soyabean oil-2 lit for primary children; 3 lit for upper primary</li> </ul>	Shri.Monoj Balkrishna Sawaikar Assistant Director-Education, Vocational Section
<b>Gujarat</b>	<b>NO</b> - Primary <b>YES</b> - Upper primary opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distributed from schools or Fair Price Shops (through vouchers) to parents.</li> <li>Cooking cost to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary classes - Not yet decided.</li> <li>Guidelines prepared</li> <li>Training of cooks-cum-helpers to be conducted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of food grains and cooking costs completed through 1st February</li> </ul>	Mohit Jisinghani, MDM State Project Coordinator



Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Haryana</b>	<b>NO</b> - Primary <b>YES</b> - Upper primary opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains, skimmed milk powder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food grains - Home delivery for primary and collection from school for upper primary</li> <li>Cooking cost transferred to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary - Not yet decided</li> <li>SOP/guidelines not yet formalized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution through December 2020 complete. Delivery of dry ration by the MDM in charge and cooks-cum-helpers.</li> <li>Circular issued for distribution of dry ration till March 2021.</li> </ul>	Sanjeev Kumar, General Manager (MDM), Department of Elementary Education
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	<b>YES</b> - Primary and Upper Primary classes both opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food grains collected by parents from Fair Price Shop or school or home delivered.</li> <li>Cooking cost to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)/ cash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SoP issued by Ministry of Education has been adopted and circulated to schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of dry ration and transfer of the cooking cost completed through December 2020.</li> <li>Distributions are done for 2-3 months in one go.</li> </ul>	Naresh Sharma, Nopulses Officer, MDM, Directorate of Elementary Education
<b>Jharkhand</b>	<b>NO</b>	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses and oil.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school or at the village level</li> </ul>	Not yet decided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution completed through December (for 200 days) and will continue till March.</li> <li>The dry ration is being distributed by the teachers and the members of <i>Saraswati Vahini</i> Samiti- a group formed to manage and supervise the MDM distribution.</li> </ul>	Mukesh Kumar Sinha, Deputy Director, MDM

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Karnataka</b>	<b>NO</b> – Primary classes. <b>YES</b> - Upper primary classes opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, Pigeon Peas ( <i>toor pulses</i> ), iodized salt and oil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary- not yet decided</li> <li>State will circulate the SOP of Ministry of Education in local language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of the dry ration regulated by the School Development &amp; Monitoring Committee.</li> <li>Procurement is in process for Nov 20-Apr 21 distributions.</li> <li>In 5 Districts, <i>Akshay Patra</i> is providing happiness kit (where they are running centralized kitchen). The happiness kits consist of food rations, stationary and hygiene items,</li> </ul>	Sh. Manjunatha S C, SADPI (MDM), Department of Public Instruction
<b>Kerala</b>	<b>No</b>	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, oil, wheat flour, curry powder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet decided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution completed through November 2020 and December distribution is ongoing.</li> <li>Food packets are supplied by Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation (KSCSC) to schools.</li> <li>Procurement process for January – March 2021 is in progress</li> </ul>	Mr. Saji Krishnan – MDM officer in General education department, Kerala
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>No</b>	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, soya, oil, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doorstep delivery/ through <i>Kendriya Bhandar</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expected from March'21</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution completed through October 2020.</li> <li>The pulses and oil distributed in November-December 2020.</li> </ul>	Bhim Bhai Patel, Deputy Commissioner
<b>Maharashtra</b>	<b>NO</b> – Primary classes <b>YES</b> - Upper Primary classes	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains and two types of pulses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school / Home delivery in few districts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet decided yet due to lockdown in few Districts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of food grains and pulses complete through January 2021.</li> <li>Distribution is done for 2 months at a time.</li> </ul>	Mr. Ankush, MDM Superintendent

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Manipur</b>	<b>NO</b> – schools closed for Grades 1-8  Grades 9-12 opened February 2021	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, potatoes, vegetables, oil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school / Home delivery in few districts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No decision yet on reopening for grades 1-8.</li> <li>SoP based on the Govt. of India guidelines being followed.</li> <li>Another SoP will be drafted for opening grades 1-8.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of dry ration is underway and expected to complete by March 2021.</li> </ul>	Mr. Tenedy Raj Kumar MDM Nopulses Person
<b>Meghalaya</b>	<b>YES</b> – Grades 6-12 open since February 2021 <b>NO</b> – Grades 1-5	Yes	Upper Primary - hot cooked meal  Primary - Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Upper Primary- As per menu  Primary – Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper Primary – From school</li> <li>Primary – Dry ration collected from schools or home delivery</li> <li>Cooking cost to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)/ cash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No decision yet on school reopening for grades 1-5.</li> <li>Meal being prepared by cooks-cum-helpers by following COVID protocols issued by Ministry of Education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of dry ration to grade 1-5 currently ongoing for Jan-Feb 2021.</li> </ul>	Mr. Ambrush Marak Director- School Education
<b>Mizoram</b>	<b>NO</b> – Primary classes closed <b>YES</b> - Upper primary classes opened in March	Yes	Upper Primary - hot cooked meal  Primary - Dry ration as FSA	Upper Primary- As per MDM menu  Primary classes – Food grains, pulses, potato, soya bean chunks and eggs sometimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper Primary – Consumed at school</li> <li>Primary – Dry ration collected from schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No decision yet on school reopening for grades 1-5.</li> <li>Schools reopened as per the SoP by Government of Mizoram</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooking cost provided through September'20 and food grains through February'20.</li> <li>The dry ration distributed under the supervision of the Local Task Force (LTF) and the SMC.</li> </ul>	James Director, School Education, Mizoram
<b>Nagaland</b>	<b>NO</b> -Grades 1-5 <b>YES</b> - Grades 6-12 open since January 2021	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains, pulses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school.</li> <li>Cooking cost to through cash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary classes – No information</li> <li>Instructions issued as per Ministry of Education guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A part of cooking cost is provided as pulses.</li> </ul>	Wonhungo Tsopoe Director, School Education

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
<b>Odisha</b>	<b>No</b>	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from Fair Price Shop.</li> <li>Cooking cost to transferred directly to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer) or cash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 2021</li> <li>SOP in process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last allocation happened in December'20.</li> <li>Letter for Jan- Mar 2021 has been released.</li> </ul>	District officials
<b>Punjab</b>	<b>YES</b> - Schools opened since February 2021	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instruction regarding social distancing, hand washing issued in regional languages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of cooking cost &amp; food grains completed thru Jan 2021</li> </ul>	Prabhcharan Singh, General Manager (MDM)
<b>Rajasthan</b>	<b>NO</b> – primary classes <b>YES</b> - Upper primary classes opened in February 2021	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, oil spices.	From FPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Primary classes opening- dates not yet confirmed</li> <li>SOP Prepared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Till New session, dry ration will be provided</li> </ul>	Dy. Commissioner, MDM
<b>Sikkim</b>	<b>MIXED</b> - Schools open with 50% capacity since February 2021	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses, potato, onion, oil etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government issued guidelines to the schools as per the Ministry of Education guidelines Social distance protocols, COVID protocols are being followed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government transfers funds to the schools on a quarterly basis. The schools procure the dry rations</li> <li>Dry ration collected by the students for higher grades and by parents for primary grades.</li> <li>Distribution of dry ration completed thru December 2020.</li> </ul>	Mr. P.T.Bhutia Assistant Director, MDM
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>NO</b> – Grades 1-8 closed  <b>YES</b> – Grades 9-12 open since February 2021	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pulses & eggs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the SOP issued by Ministry of Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 eggs/child/month being given to Grade 1-8</li> <li>Distribution of dry ration completed thru Jan 2021</li> </ul>	Smt. V R Jayalakshmi Joint Director

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
Telangana	No	No	NA	NA	NA	Not yet decided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government has provided free rice to poor families</li> </ul>	N.S.S Prasad, Asst. Director
Tripura	YES - Open for all classes 1-12.	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The schools are following the Ministry of Education guidelines for school reopening.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MDM prepared by the cooks-cum-helpers, following social distance norms. Masks and sanitizers are being provided and students are wearing masks.</li> <li>School premises are being cleaned regularly.</li> </ul>	Smt. Shyamali Debbarma Deputy Director, MDM
Uttar Pradesh	YES- Class 6-8 opened in February while primary classes opened in March	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	Consumed at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SOP issued</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Security Allowance and food grain has not been given since September 2020. The same is under process.</li> </ul>	Finance Controller, MDM Authority, UP
Uttarakhand	YES – Upper primary classes opened in February 2021  NO - Primary	Yes	Upper Primary classes - hot cooked meal  Primary classes - Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Upper Primary- As per MDM menu  Primary classes – Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper Primary – MDM consumed at school</li> <li>Primary – Dry ration collection from schools.</li> <li>Cooking cost to transferred to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary classes expected to open soon</li> <li>SOP prepared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Primary classes, food grains and FSA provided up through January 2021</li> </ul>	Parmender Kumar Bisht, Joint Director, MDM
West Bengal	No	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grain, Bengal gram pulse, Potato	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet decided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of food grains and other items completed thru January 2021 and ongoing for February.</li> <li>Rice 2kg for primary and 3kg for UP, Bengal gram 1 kg, potato 1kg.</li> <li>One soap per child also provided.</li> </ul>	T.K Adhikary, Project Director, CMDMP, West Bengal



Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of dry ration done for 2-3 months together.</li> </ul>	
<b>Union Territories</b>								
<b>Andaman and Nicobar</b>	<b>NO</b>	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distributed from school</li> <li>Cooking cost transferred into bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet decided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grains distribution completed through December'20- Mid Jan'21.</li> <li>Cooking cost distribution completed through Nov/Dec'20 and the same in process for rest of the months.</li> </ul>	Suresh Kumar, Deputy Director & Nopulses Officer, MDM
<b>Chandigarh</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Upper primary opened from 1st Feb'21 <b>No</b> - Primary	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, Bengal gram, whole gram, mustard oil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary - Not yet decided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of food items is in process for December 2020- March 2021</li> </ul>	Mr. Chandrahaas, Office In Charge-MDM,
<b>Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Upper Primary classes open from 1st March <b>No</b> - Primary classes	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food grains, pigeon peas (toor pulses), Oil etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary classes - Not yet decided</li> <li>SOP prepared for opening of schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of food grains and other items completed thru December 2020</li> <li>Approval accorded for Jan-March 2021</li> </ul>	Mr. Nilesh Gurav Director (Education)
<b>Delhi</b>	<b>Yes</b> - Upper primary classes opened from Feb'21 <b>No</b> – Primary classes	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food Grains, Pulses, Oil and Spices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary not yet decided</li> <li>SOP of Ministry of Education adopted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NGO provide packets to schools and teachers distribute to parents/children</li> <li>Distribution of packets is for 2-3 months in one go.</li> </ul>	Mr. Hemant Bhatia, Assistant Section Officer, MDM
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	<b>Yes</b> - from 1 <sup>st</sup> week of Feb	Yes	Hot cooked meal	As per MDM menu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consumed at school</li> </ul>	SOP Prepared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of FSA is completed till Dec'20</li> </ul>	Mr. Arun Manhas, Mission Director, SE
<b>Ladakh</b>	<b>Yes</b> – Upper Primary from last week of March 2021 <b>No</b> – Primary	Yes	Upper Primary - hot cooked meal Primary - Dry ration + FSA	Upper Primary- As per MDM menu Primary– Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper Primary – MDM consumed at school.</li> <li>Home delivery of dry ration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary – Not yet decided</li> <li>SOP of Ministry of Education adopted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Till 15th December 2020 distribution of Food Grains and cooking cost completed (before winter vacation)</li> </ul>	Girdhari Lal, Chief Education Officer

Name of the State/UT	Schools open	MDM functional	Modality of MDM	MDM food basket	Modality of distributing MDM	Action taken/ Plan for school reopening	Remarks	Source of information
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooking cost transferred to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>			
<b>Lakshadweep</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Yes	Dry ration as FSA	Food Grains, spices, oil, pulses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SOP Prepared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of dry ration completed till August 2020.</li> <li>Distribution of dry ration will continue till March 2021</li> </ul>	Smt. Subaidabi C P, Educational Officer & Nopulses Officer (MDM), Department of Education
<b>Puducherry</b>	<b>Yes- from 18th January 2021. Students are coming on alternate days as per the roll number.</b>	Yes	Dry ration + Cooking cost as FSA	Food grains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dry ration distribution from schools</li> <li>Cooking cost to bank accounts (Direct Benefit Transfer)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SOP Prepared</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grains and DBT transfer, completed thru October 2020 and is in process for rest of the months.</li> <li>This system may be continued till February 2021.</li> </ul>	Mr. Palaniapan , State MDM Coordinator