

Mid-Day meal for Upper Primary students



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A good news for the students of upper primary classes in Assam. Now onwards, the students from Class VI to Class VIII will also get to taste the mid-day meal in the schools.

The Centre has extended the Mid Day Meal Scheme to the Upper Primary Stage of Education (classes VI to VIII) in 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in 2007-08 and areas across the country from 2008-09. This will benefit about 1.7 crore all over the country.

The Centre has changed the name of Scheme from 'National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education' to 'National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools'.

The Centre has released the assistance to the respective States for extension of Mid-Day Meal programme to upper primary stage. A sum of Rs.7324 Crores was provided in the Budget 2007-08 for the MDM Programme, representing 37% increase over the budget provision for 2006-07. The Centre has also extended transport subsidy from Rs 100 per quintal to Rs 125 per quintal. for 11 Special Category States (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir & Uttarakhand).

The calorific value of the mid day meal has been fixed for upper primary at 700 calories and 20 grams of protein. Foodgrains @ 150 grams per child/ school day for the upper primary stage would be provided.

The cooking cost of mid day meal for upper primary stage at Rs 2.50 per child/school day with the NER States contribution being a minimum of Rs 0.20 per child/school day and for all other States and UTs, the State contribution being Rs 0.50 per child/school day.

The Central assistance to construct kitchen-cum-store in upper primary schools would be provided @ Rs 60,000 per unit, as in the case of primary stage besides, Central assistance for kitchen devices to upper primary schools would be @ Rs 5,000 per school as in the case of primary stage.

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