



මුදල් කොමිෂන් සභාව

நிதி ஆணைக்குழு

FINANCE COMMISSION

(Established under Article 154 (1) of the Constitution)

03, සරණ මාවත,  
රාජගිරිය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.

தலை. 03, சரண மாவத்தை,  
ராஜகிரிய, இலங்கை.

03, Sarana Mawatha,  
Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka.

මගේ අංකය  
எனது இல  
My No

FC/PDP/01/01/2025-II

ඔබේ අංකය  
உமது இல  
Your No

දිනය  
திகதி  
Date

09.01.2025

Chief Secretary

Western/ Central/ Southern/ Northern/ North Western/ North Central/ Uva/ Sabaragamuwa/ Eastern Province

### Guidelines for the School Nutritional Food Programme - 2025

#### 1. Provisions

An amount of Rs.11,000Mn has been allocated by the Vote on Account 2025 to nine Provincial Councils for the School Nutritional Food Program with the objective of improving the nutritional level of School children. The decision has been taken to cast the final responsibility of implementation the program to Provincial Councils to ensure that the program is implemented in a more efficient and effective manner. Accordingly, allocated Rs.11,000Mn by the Vote on Account has been apportioned among nine Provinces as follows.

| Province            | WP    | CP    | SP    | NP  | NWP   | NCP | UP  | SGP   | EP    | Total  |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| Allocation (Rs.Mn.) | 2,270 | 1,500 | 1,250 | 650 | 1,400 | 850 | 880 | 1,000 | 1,200 | 11,000 |

In order to facilitate the implementation of this program, these guidelines are issued to direct Provincial Councils for the efficient and effective utilization of the allocated funds. Accordingly, the funds provided for this program should be utilized with a due consideration to these guidelines in order to provide a better meal to the school children with the objective of enhancing the nutritional level of children.

#### 2. Setting up of the Provincial Steering Committee

In order to ensure that this program is implemented effectively and in a well-coordinated manner, it is crucial that this program be implemented under your direct supervision with the assistance of a Provincial Steering Committee established for this program. Provincial Authorities, in consultation with you and the Steering Committee, should plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate this program in an integrated manner with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

You are advised to adhere to the Circulars no.24/2023 dated 19.05.2023 and no. (1)23/2024 dated 07.03.2024 or Circulars to be issued by the Ministry (Line) of Education to Provincial Education Authorities to facilitate School Nutritional Food Program which contains detailed instructions for the implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of this program.

සභාපති  
தலைவர்  
Chairman

(+94)011 2866724

තැබුණ  
அலுவலகம்  
Office

(+94)011 2866747

වෙබ් අඩවිය  
இணையத்தளம்  
Website

www.fincom.gov.lk

සේකර  
செயலாளர்  
Secretary

(+94)011 2866824

ලැයිස්  
தொலைபேசி  
Fax

(+94)011 2866679

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල  
மின்துறை  
E-mail

info@fincom.gov.lk

The Provincial Level Steering Committee functioned last year under your chairmanship and comprised of the Deputy Chief Secretary (Planning), Deputy Chief Secretary (Finance), Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Education, Heads of Provincial Health, Education, Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development sectors and relevant other officers as you deem suitable should be continued. Under your leadership, the Steering Committee shall direct, supervise and monitor the entire operation of the School Nutritional Food Program in the Province, adhering to the following guidelines.

### **3. Guidelines**

#### **3.1 Implementation**

- I. Comply with the Circulars no.24/2023 dated 19.05.2023 and no. (1)23/2024 dated 07.03.2024 or Circulars to be issued by the Ministry (Line) of Education and channeling the reporting process through the Chief Secretary.
- II. Implementation of this School Nutritional Food Program should be aligned with the current Government's policy on Food Security and Nutrition.
- III. Preparing the School Nutritional Food Program at the school level with the participation of teachers, parents and interested groups, make every effort to provide a proper nutritious meal to the children. The highest priority should be given to engaging, School Development Societies/ Parent Societies of the school in implementing this program.
- IV. Ensure proper coordination with the Provincial Health Sector officials such as the Provincial Director of Health Services, Regional Directors of Health Services, Medical Officers of Health, Public Health Inspectors and Public Health Midwives and other relevant officials to guarantee the nutritional aspects, hygiene and quality of the meal provided under this program.
- V. Directing officials of the Provincial Agriculture, Animal Production and Inland Fisheries to adopt a suitable mechanism to increase the production of grains, vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs, meat, fish, etc. focusing on this program by integrating it with their routine programs. Ensure the availability of those products to the School Nutritional Food Program with the objective of adding additional value to the per head cost for a meal of a student provided by the government to enhance the quality and nutritional level of the food supplied.
- VI. Direct and encourage the officials to muster the support of Voluntary Societies, philanthropists and businessmen in the respective area to contribute and to implement the nutrition program.
- VII. If the suppliers are selected for the relevant food supplies in case of necessity, assess whether they have the ability to continuously supply the food without diminishing in quantity and quality even in the situation of delaying the payments.
- VIII. The financial imprest received by the Provincial Council from the General Treasury for this program should be used exclusively for this Program to ensure prompt payment of relevant bills of the School Nutritional Food Program. It has been observed that the Food Suppliers whose bill payments are delayed often adduce financial difficulties as an excuse and provide food that is low in quantity and quality.
- IX. Share your experiences and best practices adopted in this regard with other Provinces.
- X. Avoid duplication that might occur due to the diversion of government assistance and private sector assistance to same schools.

- XI. If the Government provides assistance in kind, the value of such assistance would be deducted from the allocation provided to provincial budget.

### 3.2. Monitoring and Reporting

- I. Adopting a proper mechanism for overall monitoring of this program.
- II. Actively engaging the relevant officers of the Education Sector in supervision, monitoring and providing essential data and information to the relevant authorities, including the Line Ministry of Education, through you within the stipulated time periods, is crucial for the successful implementation of the program.

4. An effort should be made to create awareness about this program among all officers including those at the field level, teachers, principals and all relevant parties.

Accordingly, Finance Commission has informed me to request you to make all possible arrangements for the successful implementation of the School Nutritional Food Program. This program is of utmost importance as it is implemented by the Provincial Councils in the year 2025, using the scarce resources made available to you for the betterment of the children.

  
A.T.M.U.D.B. Tennakoon  
Secretary  
Finance Commission

#### Copies:

1. Secretary to the Hon. President, Presidential Secretariat
2. Secretary to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Office
3. Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration,  
Provincial Councils and Local Government
4. Secretary, Ministry of Education, Higher Education  
and Vocational Education
5. Secretary, Ministry of Health
6. Director General, Department of National Budget
7. Director General, Department of National Planning
8. Director General, Department of Treasury Operations
9. Director General, Department of External Resources
10. Deputy Chief Secretary (Planning)
11. Deputy Chief Secretary (Finance)
12. Assistant Auditor General

For your kind information please

- For necessary action please
- For necessary action please
- For your kind information please