Opinion of Primary Schools Teachers about Mid-Day Meal Programme in Murshidabad

Samiul Biswas, Department of Education,
Education College, Domkal, Murshidabad, West Bengal, INDIA

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Corresponding Author
Samiul Biswas, Deaprtment of Education,
Education College, Domkal, Murshidabad,
West Bengal, INDIA

shodhsamagam1@gmail.com

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to examine the Opinion of Primary Schools Teachers about Mid-Day Meal Programme in Murshidabad. The main objectives of the study are to examine the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on the attendance of the students, to investigate the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude and behavior of parents toward Child's Education and to analyze the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition. To measure the Opinion of Primary Schools Teachers about Mid-Day Meal Programme in Murshidabad, researcher has constructed a 3 point likert's scale containing on Mid-Day Meal containing increase school attendance of the students, change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education and child's nutrition to collect the data. 14 Primary Schools were selected for this study. The questionners were supplied to 120 Primary Schools teachers. In this present study, the researcher has followed the Descriptive Survey Method. The research study explicitly concludes that mid-day meal has a positive impact on student attendance and dropout rate of students which is essential for universalization of elementary education particularly in rural and urban areas where illiteracy rate is high due to wastage and stagnation and other related causes.

Keywords

Mid-Day Meal, Primary Schools, Descriptive Survey Method.

Introduction

The Mid-day Meal is popular and special name for school meal programme in India. It

October to December 2020   WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY
AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR SJIF (2020): 5.56

870

involves provision of lunch free of cost to school-children on all working days. The main objectives of the programme are increasing school enrolment and attendance, protecting children from classroom hunger, addressing malnutrition, improved socialization among children belonging to all castes and social empowerment through provision of employment to women. In Tamil Nadu this scheme was introduced statewide by K. Kamraj Govt. in 1960. It was expanded by M.G. Ramchandra in 1982 has been adopted by other state of India also after a remarkable direction by the Superme Court of India on 28 November 2011. By this scheme there is tremendous increase in school participation and education rate in Tamil Nadu.

12 crore (120 million) children are so far covered and benefited under the Govt. Mid-Day Meal Scheme, which is the largest school lunch programme in the world. Allocation of fund for this programme has been increased from Rs. 3010 crore to Rs. 4813 crore (Rs. 48 billion 1.3 million) in 2006-2007.

History

This scheme is not new if we look back to our history then we know that earlier is the Madras Presidency started providing cooked meal to children in corporate schools in Mardras city in 1923. Later the programme was expanded to cover all children who studied up to class 10. Tamil Nadu's Mid-Day Meal programme is the best known scheme in the country.

National Programme for Nutrition Support to Primary Education

Although the programme in Tamil Nadu was initially termed as an act of "Populism", the success of the scheme made the project very popular. The success was so remarkable that in 1995, then the Indian Prime Minister P.Y. Narsimha Rao hailed the success of the project and suggested that the scheme should be implemented and applied to all over the country, and thus began the "National Programme for Nutrition Support to Primary Education.

Objectives of the study

i)   To examine the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on the attendance of the students.

ii) To investigate the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education

iii) To analyze the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Hypothesis of the study

H_{01}: There will be no significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid-Day Meal to increase school attendance of the students.

H_{02}: There will be no significant impact of the teacher's opinion about Mid-Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education.

H_{03}: There will be no significant impact on the teachers opinion about Mid-Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Limitations of the Study

The limitation of study are as follows :

➢ The study was limited at Berhampore, Beldanga and Domkal Block of Murshidabad district of West Bengal.

➢ The study was conducted on urban and rural areas.

➢ 120 teachers of primary schools were selected for this study.

October to December 2020   WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY
AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR
SJIF (2020): 5.56   871

➢   14 primary schools were selected from urban and rural district for this study.

Methodology

Research methodology is in essential part of research work. The whole research has been designed by researcher, in order to complete research. This research explain variables, population and sample, tools and design of the study, and to specify the methodology. The researcher has create design based on his topic, and explain the details.

Research Design
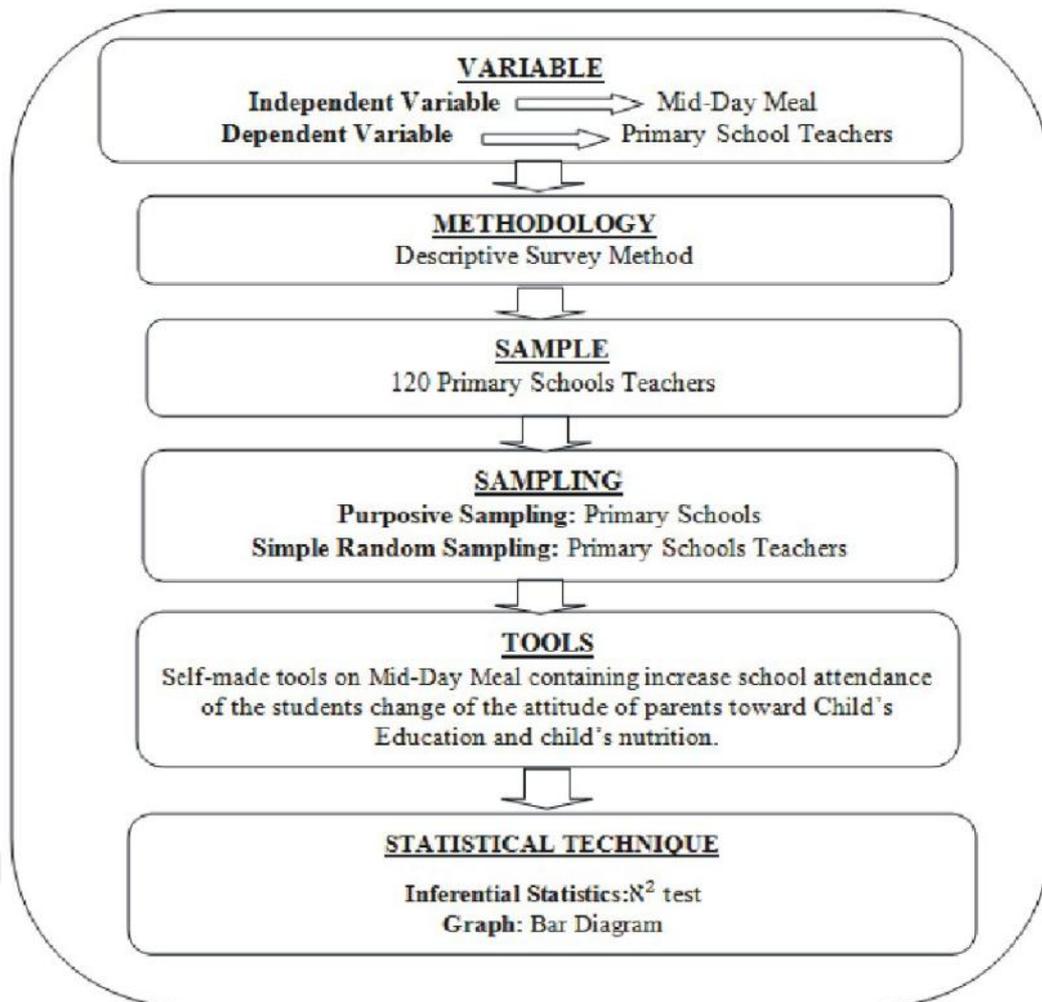
Sample

Researcher has taken 14 primary schools from rural and urban area of Murshidabad district. 120 primary schools teachers were selected from those primary schools. 120 primary schools teachers were selected by simple random sampling and 14 primary schools were selected by Purposive Sampling.

Tools

A self-made questionnaire on Mid-Day Meal of 28 items was designed by the researcher for this study. This tools has three dimensions i.e. increase school attendance of the students, change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education and child's nutrition. For **Reliability (Split-half method)** of scale was **0.89** (Significant at 0.01 levels). The tool was easy to administer. For each statement, there was a 3 points agreement / disagreement scale given with the numerical value assignment to each

October to December 2020   WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY
AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR
SJIF (2020): 5.56

872

point (which was reversed for negative items): 3= Agree, 2=Neutral and 1=Disagree. The items were also shown experience teacher and resource person to verify the language, objective and items.

Dimension components of the questionnaire.

Sl. No	Dimension Name	Items No.
1	Increase school attendance of the students.	1,4,7,10,13,16,19,22,25,28
2	change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education	2,5,8,11,14,17,20,23,26
3	Child's nutrition.	3,6,9,12,15,18,21,24,27

Data Analysis
Description and interpretation

H_{01}: There will be no significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal to increase school attendance of the students.

Table-1 : $\aleph^2$ test of the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to increase school attendance of the students.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
f_0	2082	41	193
f_e	772	772	772

$\aleph^2 = 3349.347$

Figure-1: Bar diagram showing the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to increase school

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation

From the above table, the value of is 3349.347. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. H_{01} is rejected.

So the final hypothesis is :

There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal to increase school attendance of the students.
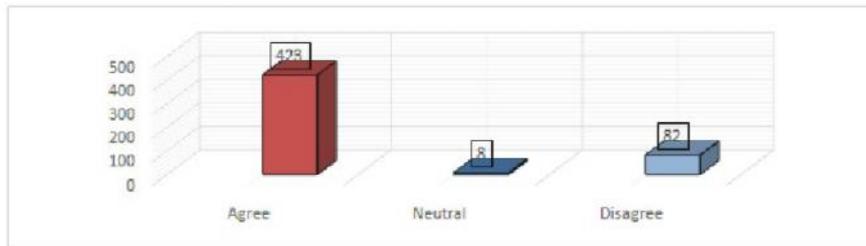
H_{02}: There will be no significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education.

Table-2 : $\aleph^2$ test of the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
f_0	423	8	82
f_e	171	171	171

$\aleph^2 = 573.05$

October to December 2020 WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY
AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR
SJIF (2020): 5.56

873

Figure-2: Bar diagram showing the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education.

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation

From the above table, the value of is 573.05. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated x^2 value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. **H_{02}** is rejected.

So the final hypothesis is :

There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education.

H_{03}: There will be no significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Table 3 : x^2 test of the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
f_0	156	0	0
f_e	52	52	52

$x^2 = 312$

Figure-3: Bar diagram showing the teachers opinion of Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Source : Primary Data

Interpretation

From the above table, the value of is 312. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated x^2 value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. **H_{03}** is rejected.

So the final hypothesis is :

There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid-Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Discussion

From the above table -1, the value of is 3349.347. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated x^2 value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. **H_{01}** is rejected.

October to December 2020   WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY
AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR
SJIF (2020): 5.56

874

From the above table -2, the value of is 573.05. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated x^2 value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. **H$_{02}$** is rejected.

From the above table -3, the value of is 312. For df = 2, the table value are 5.991 and 9.210 at 0.05 and 0.01 levels respectively. Our calculated x^2 value is greater than the table value. So the test is highly significant at 0.01 levels. **H$_{03}$** is rejected.

Finding

➢ There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal on the attendance of the students.

➢ There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal to change of the attitude of parents toward Child's Education.

➢ There is significant impact of the teachers opinion about Mid- Day Meal on child's nutrition.

Conclusion

The research study explicitly concludes that mid-day meal has a positive and great impact on student attendance and dropout rate of students which is essential for universalization of elementary education particularly in rural and urban areas where illiteracy rate is high due to wastage and stagnation and other related causes. Furthermore, mid-day meal scheme has some other benefits like removal of classroom hunger, reducing malnutrition, formation of good habits like washing their hands and utensils before and after meal, developing physic and social equity other than attendance and dropout rate.

References

1. Afridi, F. (2005). *Mid-Day Meals in Two States*: Comparing the Financial and Institutional Organization of the Program, Economic and Political Weekly, Mumbai, Vol. 40 (15).

2. Blue, J. (2005). *The Government Primary School Mid-day Meal Scheme*: An Assessment of Program Implementation and Impact in Udaipur District, www.righttofoodindia.org.

3. Dogra, M., & Bharat Dogra, (2003). *Reforming the Mid-Day Meal Programme*. www.righttofood.com.

4. Gupta, R. (2019). UGC-NET Education Previous Years' Paper(Solved), Ramesh Publishing House, New Delhi.

5. Jain, J. and Mihir, S. (2005). *Mid-Day Meal in Madhya Pradesh*: Reading material and views of experts. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol – 50, No. 48, www.developednation.org.

6. Paul, P.K. and Mandal, N.K. (2012) *"Impact of Mid-Day-Meal Programme on Academic Performance of Student"*, International Journal of Science and Research, Vol. II, pp.392-406.

****

October to December 2020   WWW.SHODHSAMAGAM.COM
A DOUBLE-BLIND, PEER-REVIEWED QUARTERLY MULTI DISCIPLINARY AND MULTILINGUAL RESEARCH JOURNAL

IMPACT FACTOR
SJIF (2020): 5.56 | 875