

Original Article

Midday meal scheme and its impact on students in government schools

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Abstract

The Midday Meal Scheme, one of the world's largest school nutrition programs, plays a pivotal role in addressing hunger and improving educational outcomes in India. This study examines its impact on government school students by analyzing nutritional support, enrollment, attendance, academic performance, and social inclusion. Findings reveal that the scheme significantly enhances student attendance, boosts classroom participation, and provides essential nutrition to children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Furthermore, it fosters social equality by bringing together children from diverse communities. However, challenges such as poor infrastructure, irregular food quality, inadequate monitoring, and limited dietary diversity persist. Addressing these gaps through better implementation, community participation, and policy support is essential for ensuring the program's long-term sustainability and effectiveness in promoting both education and health outcomes.

Keywords- Midday Meal Scheme, School Nutrition, Educational Outcomes, Government Schools, Student Attendance, Malnutrition, Social Inclusion, Policy Implementation, Child Development, India

Introduction

The mid-day meal plan, launched using India's officials, is one of all the largest faculty vitamin applications globally. Its purpose is to increase the nutrients of the child at the same time as increasing faculty enrollment, appearance and retention. The scheme is operated in officers and officers-assisted faculties, which provides unfasted, cooked food to college students during college hours. This program is more than filling the stomach; It plays an important position in promoting schooling, reducing starvation in school rooms, dealing with malnutrition and encouraging social equality. This newspaper appears on various consequences of lunch on students in officers' colleges. It checks how the scheme affects their health, direct performance and universal school.

Objective:

The goal of this lesson is to assess the impact of lunch on students in government schools. This especially seems to see how the plan allows nutrition, development faculty enrollment and appearance, improves direct overall performance, and promotes social equality. This is additionally emphasizes the importance of the scheme in dealing with starvation and addressing educational gaps among underprivileged children.

Blessing of lunch plan:

1. Further diet carried forward

This system provides at least one balanced, cooked food on every school day. This is important for children of low profit homes. It helps in dealing with problems such as malnutrition, malnutrition and essential vitamins and minerals.

2. Quick nomination and attendance

Free food supply encourages parents to send their youth to school. As a final result, many government schools have shown an extraordinary growth in enrollment and better daily attendance quotes, mainly from groups of margins between women and children.



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3. Better awareness and academic overall performance

A well-fed child is more likely to pay interest and interact in grandeur. Through reducing all hunger through school hours, the program enables students' consciousness, participation and average instructional success.

4. Promote social equality

The Noon Meal Scheme encourages children of many castes, religions and monetary backgrounds to consume together. It supports social inclusion, mainly reduces caste-based discrimination, and creates an experience of harmony and shared revelation among students.

5. Guide to run parents

In low-profit families, in which parents often work for a long time, the scheme reduces the burden of providing food every day. This ensures that children receive constant nutrition, even if food at home is unusual.

6. Employment age

The scheme regularly creates the process opportunities for chefs, assistants and suppliers from the people of the region. It contributes to rural employment and supports women's empowerment.

Challenges of mid-day meal scheme:

1. Good food and protection of food

One of the biggest concerns is the quality of food served. There were infected or undercooked food cases for food poisoning and health problems. The terrible hygiene in getting ready, storing and serving food is the first rate problem in many facilities.

2. Basic structure and center

Many facilities lack fundamental infrastructure such as clean kitchens, proper utensils, and safe ingestion water. Inadequate cooking areas and inadequate ventilation or hygiene food can affect the protection of food and the honor of making these prepared food.

3. Irregular delivery and delay

In some areas, irregular transportation of food grains, delays in bills to suppliers or chefs, and bureaucracy obstructions disrupt the program's clean function, main food or main implementation.

4. Low wages and poor operations for chefs

Prepare dinner-cum-helpers, most of whom are girls of deprived background, often underpaid and overwork. They face activity insecurity, lack education, and undergo poor operation conditions, which can affect the performance and morale of the workers' body.

5. Corruption and mismanagement

The leakage within the supply chain, incorrect reporting of records, and the turn of money or grain were reported in many areas. These problems reduce the integrity and effectiveness of this system.

6. Social discrimination

Despite the purpose of the program to promote social equality, examples of caste-based discrimination still appear. In some areas, children of marginalized groups are served separately or served in the previous, which reduces the intention of inclusion.

7. Tracking and evaluation intervals

There is usually a loss of everyday and transparent tracking and remarks systems on the college and district range. This makes it difficult to see and upgrade troubles quickly.

Limits of mid-day meal plan:

1. Limited nutrition limit

Although the plan is targeted to offer balanced diet, the menu often has a shortage of range and significant nutrients in practice. Many schools serve fundamental food, such as rice and lentils, enough protein, greens, or micronutrients. This is the result in intervals in dietary price.

2. One-length-suit and all method

The scheme follows equal nutrition tips in all areas. It neglects the neighborhood food conduct, availability and cultural options. It can affect how well their effectiveness in traditional and fixed groups.

3. Effect of quick period

At the same time when the plan addresses hunger for hours of the faculty of faculty, it does not address a great problem of food lack of confidence in domestic. Many youngsters return to a low environment after the cross faculty, which limits long-term fitness benefits.

4. Inadequate consciousness on fitness training

This scheme presents food, but it no longer consists of almost almost vitamins, hygiene or healthy ingestion conduct. With this understanding, students cannot comprehensive long-term healthy behavior.

5. Unequal implementation across states

Due to versions in administrative efficiency and funding, the quality and effectiveness of the plan varies extensively in each other from a country or surrounding area. Some state excels in implementation, while others

struggle with fundamental shipping.

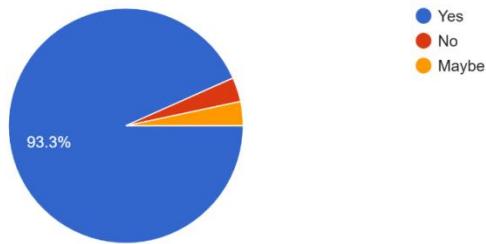
6. Problems of dependence and stability

There may be a risk that the plan can also cause dependence if it is not supported through comprehensive social programs and financial development. Its long -term stability is also based on the finance and political assistance of the officers continuously.

Analysis of Survey Conducted:

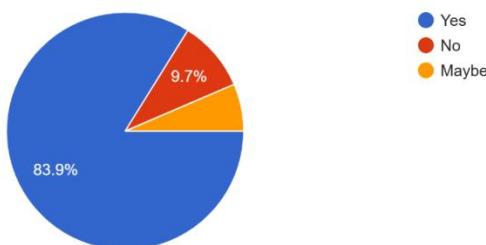
Do you get midday meals in your school every day?

30 responses



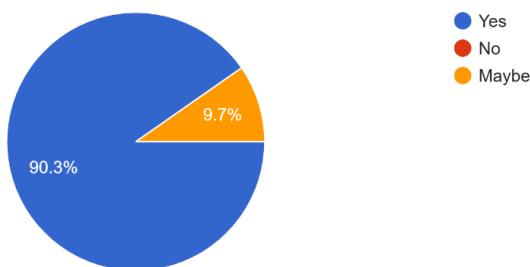
Do you like the food given? (Yes/No)

31 responses



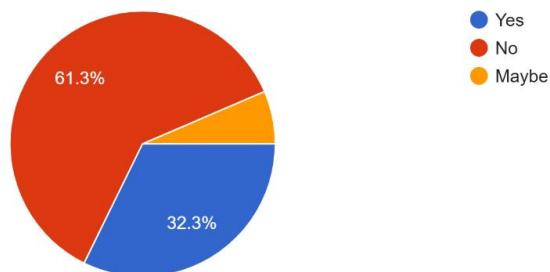
Is the food hot and fresh when served?

31 responses



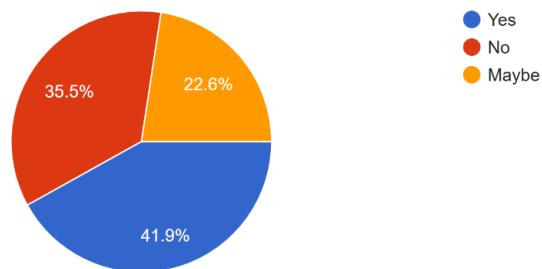
Do you feel hungry during class after eating the meal?

31 responses



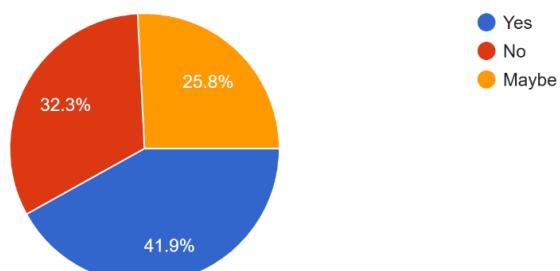
Do you come to school mainly because of the midday meal?

31 responses



Would you miss school if the midday meal was not given?

31 responses



Evaluation of survey:

A survey was done in schools of officers to evaluate how well the mid -day meal plan is running. Questions saw food out of excellent, attendance styles, scholar health and popular opinion.

Major findings:

1. Further attendance and step into enrollment

- 82% of the college students said that they regularly attend the college due to lunch.
- 68% of the instructors found an increase in enrollment, especially among children of low -income houses.

2. Nutritional blessings

- 74% of students focused more lively and focus after receiving food.
- 57% of the trainers saw a visible increase in pupil vigilance and the afternoon instructions.
- But, 21% of college students are troubled by diversity and nutritional value of food.

3. Cleanliness and food good

- 35% of students suggested food hygiene (without cooked food, stale odor, or impure plates) sometimes.
- Forty% of the workers' college body called the proper kitchen centers and storage lack in their colleges.

Interpretation and end:

Results of the survey show that lunch plan has undoubtedly affecting student attendance, lectures chamber participation and nutrients. This has greatly reduced starvation in the school rooms and has promoted inclusion especially for economically disadvantaged college students. However, the findings also indicate the ongoing demand conditions, along with poor infrastructure, topical hygiene issues and lack of diversity in food options.

They want insight to upgrade unique upgrade to run this system, expose to involve everyday tracking, better kitchen center, and fitness education. Strengthening those areas can improve the effectiveness of the plan and help it to help that it can fully achieve additional desires.

Conclusion:

The lunch scheme has become an important coverage in India's efforts to improve education and vitamins for the youth of India's school-age, especially from the suffering background. With the help of addressing all starvation through faculty hours, the scheme has expanded enrollment, advanced appearance, and has promoted participation in the attention and grandeur of college students.

Social benefits are also important. Shared food aid sells equality, reduces caste obstacles, and promotes solidarity among students. However, challenges that include inconsistent implementation, infrastructure loss, almost food first -class concerns, and coffee social discrimination still avoids its full potential.

To create some prolonged duration achievement and stability, high tracking, elevated community partnership, forwarding nutritional requirements, and it is important to increase the plan through good adequate assistance for the workforce. With the ongoing dedication and clever enhancement, the Noon Meal Scheme can now eliminate a more effective tool to develop the most effective more healthy students, but also an additional inclusive and knowledgeable fortune era.

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