Title of the Thesis: A Study of the Educational Impact of Mid-day Meal Scheme in Primary Schools of West Tripura District

Abstract

Among the problems of elementary education non-enrolment, irregular daily attendance, dropouts, malnutrition of children are prominent. To reduce those mid day meal scheme in primary schools has been initiated in Tripura like other states of India. In this context the present study focused on educational impact of mid day meal in primary schools. The main objectives of the study were to study the infrastructure, daily attendance, quality of mid-day meal, school efficiency, social development of students, the role of community and Panchayet members and to identify the problems in the implementation of the scheme and to suggest measures to overcome them. It is a survey type descriptive research study. Data were collected from 20 headmasters/teacher in-charge, 20 cooks/ helpers in 20 primary schools and 20 community/ panchyat members through Interview schedule on Physical facilities in the school, Interview schedule. Students’ merit and attendance register were also studied to collect data regarding attendance and school efficiency. Qualitative and quantitative analysis were done. It was found that infrastructure for implementing the mid-day meal was satisfactory, quality of the food is also good and there is no complaint of falling ill after having mid-day meal in sample schools. After analysing the mid-day meal the dietician suggested increasing the quantity of the food for class-V students. Daily attendance of students was increased after implementation of mid-day meal scheme. The case studies shown that students stays in the schools whole day and not leaving the school after taking the mid day meal. Social development was also seen among the students because of mid day meal. There was a positive impact of mid day meal in education in West Tripura district of Tripura.