CHAPTER – VI

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS
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This chapter deals with the summary, findings of the study, conclusions, and recommendations for improvement in enrolment in the secondary school education and suggestions for further study.

6.0. INTRODUCTION

Education plays a vital and important role in the life of an individual. It aims to prepare and develop the individual physically, mentally and spiritually to lead a quality life. Education is a process through which a person can attain the necessary competencies and skills to face the challenges of life. According to the 93\textsuperscript{rd} Constitutional Amendment, primary education is a Fundamental Right (Article 21A). Four important factors are identified for achieving the goals of Universalization of Elementary Education and Universalization of Secondary Education. They are Access, Enrolment, Retention and Achievement.

Various schemes were implemented in the Primary Education sector by the Government to reach the most disadvantaged population and thereby to achieve the above said four goals. Access to Primary Education is being provided through massive programmes like Sarva Siksha Abhiyan to all such of those children who are involved in physical labour, street children, migrating children etc. Inspite of this, a few children are still deprived of Primary Education due to inability of the parents to send their children to school due to their poor economical status, for these parents, sending their children to school means -incurring extra financial burden on them. That being the attitude of the parents the only way of bringing them to school is to take care of their food and nutritional needs. Without satisfying this basic need, needs of higher order are difficult to reach. The most important de-motivating factor in this aspect is the poor nutritional
status of children. Hence supplementing the required nutrition should be the priority to draw their attention to education.

6.1 SUMMARY

The Government of Andhra Pradesh introduced the Mid Day Meal Programme in 1982 experimentally, in all the Abhyudaya Pradhamika Patashalalu. Due to certain constraints like inadequate finances, this programme could not be sustained. On 15 August 1995 Government of India launched the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education. As per this Programme each child was provided with, 3 kgs of raw rice per month for a period of 10 months in a year.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh implemented the same in the State. Consequent to the Hon’ble Supreme Court’s direction in 2001 to provide Cooked Meal to children, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh launched the cooked Mid Day Meal Programme in 2003 to all Primary School children in Government, Local body and Government Aided Schools. Subsequently it was extended to children enrolled under Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS), Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centres and Madarsas / Maqtabs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MID DAY MEAL PROGRAMME

i) To improve the Nutritional Status of children enrolled in Classes I-V in Government, Local body, Government aided schools, EGS and AIE Centres including Madarsas/ Maqtabs.

ii) To motivate children belonging to disadvantaged sections to attend primary schools regularly and help them in concentrating on school and classroom activities.

iii) To provide Nutritional Support to children of primary stage in drought affected areas in summer vacation, thereby ensuring their continued interest in schooling.
In Andhra Pradesh MDM effectively alleviated classroom hunger and persuading poor families to send their children to school. Most of the children attending Government schools come from poorest of the poor families. With incomes below the poverty line, for most of these children having one square meal a day is sometimes not possible. For a majority of them the midday meal is the only meal they have in a day.

The cooks employed in many places are Dalit women. Caste problems, too, are narrowed. Sharing of common meal enhanced Socialization and reduced prejudices among communication when the scheme started. All the schools we visited it was reported by the upper caste members that have they no problems to allow their children to consume meals prepared by a Dalit cook. The situation has improved further in urban areas when the state government decided to rope in NGO and corporate sector in PPP mode to prepare the meals at a centralized kitchen and provide hot and hygienic, nutritious food to the schools. The scheme has increased enrolment in schools; more significantly of girls and children from poorer section. The programme has reduced dropout rate and shown improvement in retention. It has curbed teacher absenteeism and narrowed social distances. Sharing of common meal enhanced socialization and reduced prejudices. It has mobilized women self help groups for effective implementation of MDM.

However still few constraints are still exists like in some places cooks have to cope in the most challenging circumstances as lack of basic facilities such as water supply; lack of proper kitchen sheds (non educationally backward blocks) shortage of LPG Gas during rainy season cooking with fire wood etc. Even though the Food grains supplies by the Food Corporation of India through State Civil Supplies Department are used Mid Day Meal Programme, there are few complaints received on the quality of the food grains. The general opinion of the public is that the schools may be supplied with still better quality of rice.
A few bottlenecks coming in the way for the smooth and continuous flow of funds also should be removed. Monitoring also need to be take care vigorously as MDM Programme is a massive prestigious. Monitoring in Andhra Pradesh is very scant since there is a shortage of manpower in the Department.

The MDM Programme implementation through PPP mode in Andhra Pradesh is a win-win situation for the Private Player, Government and community.

**Mid Day Meal is provided to the Students of IX and X Classes in the High Schools also by the State Government by procuring Rice from the open market through A.P.S.C.S.C. from out of its own funds from 13-10-2008 onwards.**

Many research institutions, researchers and organization are done the evaluative work on the Mid-day Meal Scheme being implemented in primary education but not on secondary education. Due to the gap identified by the researcher, he selected the problem for his research work.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM**

Primary Education is the foundation for any educational edifice. Education is not only concerned with the individual, but also with the whole society. All civilized societies made it compulsory. Secondary education is an indicator of development. Secondary Education is an interdisciplinary field of study. The contributions from various disciplines of social science to educational researches have increased. However limited researches in Secondary Education especially on the evaluation of the scheme which are undergoing in the school are under taken outside the Education Department.

In this study, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) namely Mid-Day Meal Scheme towards promoting enrolment, dropout, retention and achievement of the secondary school
children has brought for both prospects and challenges. When a scheme was launched, the complaint from the administrators, teachers, parents and students are frequently heard. Since these challenges are crucial factors that have great potential of directly or indirectly hindering the effectiveness of the schemes, they have to be properly assess and refine the scheme in a visible manner for fulfilling its objectives.

Hence, there is a need to conduct a contextual and in-depth analysis of the existing situations and suggest possible solutions/suggestions for the successful implementation of the scheme across the country. Till to date few studies are conducted in different parts of the country on the effectiveness/implementation of the scheme and given possible solutions to strengthen the scheme according to their local needs and cultural contextual. But a total evaluation study was taken by in the state of Andhra Pradesh either by the Government or Non-Governmental Organisation but not at the gross root levels.

With all the above, the investigator conduct an Implementation of Mid-Day Meals at secondary school level and its impact on enrolment, retention and achievement and the way it is implemented and effectiveness.

6.2 MAJOR FINDINGS

The major findings of the study are given below:

1. The total population of the secondary school going children in the district is 366163, among them the boys is 187798 and the girls is 177896.

2. The literacy rate of 6-15 year age group children in the district is 56.13, among them boys is 68.38 and Girls is 43.34. The literacy rate of SC category children is 44.48, among boys is 55.9 and girls is 32.48. The literacy rate of ST category children is 44.52, among boys is 57.22 and girls is 30.89.
3. The total schools i.e., primary, upper primary and high schools together is 1677. Among them, the total 1152 Upper primary schools and high schools are only eligible to benefit the midday meal scheme of their children.

4. The midday meal coverage in the district for the enrolled secondary school children i.e., 6th class to 10th class children are 365554

5. The total enrolment in the 1st class during 2001-02 in the district and completes the 10th class during 2010-11 is 40650. The dropout rate in the district is 46.90. The dropout rate among the boys is 43.43 and Girls is 50.04.

Impact of the Scheme on Enrolment and Retention

6. The literacy rate between male and female among the selected mandals of the present study, the Agali Mandal is high in average literacy rate and also the male literacy rate is high i.e, 57.22 percent and the female literacy is high i.e, 45.59 percent in Uravakonda Mandal.

7. In total 1662 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X in Agali Mandal during 2010-11, among them 1533 students are opted Midday meal and in total 50589 Kgs of rice and Rs. 14,06,374 and 1586 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X during 2011-12, among them 1486 students are opted Midday meal and in total 49038 Kgs of rice and Rs. 13,63,258 were utilized for this

8. The class wise enrolment and retention, the enrolment was decreases in the classes VIII to X but the enrolment was hike in Class VI and VII students in the schools of Inagalore, Madhudi, Agali, and R. G. Halli and the enrolment was decreases in the P. Byadigera and Irrigepalli villages in Agali Mandal. It concludes that the midday meal scheme was shown hike in the enrolment and retention of the students of the Agali mandal.
9. In total 1107 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X in Amadagur Mandal during 2010-11, among them 1019 students are opted Midday meal and in total 33627 Kgs of rice and Rs. 9,34,831 and 1052 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X during 2011-12, among them 939 students are opted Midday meal and in total 30987 Kgs of rice and Rs. 8,61,439 were utilized for this.

10. The enrolment was decreases in the classes VIII to X but the enrolment was hike in Class VI and VII students in the schools of Thummala, Chinaganipalli, Pulukuntapalli, Mahamamdabad, and J.K.Palli and the enrolment was decreases in the Amadagur villages. It concludes that the midday meal scheme was shown hike in the enrolment and retention of the students of the Amadagur mandal.

11. In total 3175 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X in Amarapuram Mandal during 2010-11, among them 2919 students are opted Midday meal and in total 96327 Kgs of rice and Rs. 26,77,890 and 2977 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X during 2011-12, among them 2745 students are opted Midday meal and in total 90585 Kgs of rice and Rs. 25,18,263 were utilized for this.

12. The enrolment was decreases in the classes IX to X but the enrolment was hike in Class VI and VIII students in the schools of Valasa, and K. Sivaram and the enrolment was decreases in the V. Agaraharam, Gowdanakunta, Amarapuram, Halukur, Hemavathi, and Basavanapalli villages. It concludes that the midday meal scheme was shown a very little improvement in the enrolment and retention of the students of the Amarapuram mandal.

13. In total 3959 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X in Uravakonda Mandal and among them 3641 students are opted Midday meal and in total 1,20,153 Kgs of rice and Rs. 33,40,253 and 3832 students are enrolled in Class VI to Class X in Uravakonda.
Mandal and among them 3832 students are opted Midday meal and in total 1,26,456 Kgs of rice and Rs. 35,15,476 were utilized for this.

14. The enrolment was decreases in the classes IX to X but the enrolment was hike in Class VI and VIII students in the schools of Uravakonda, Nerimatala, Nimbagal, Raketla, Y. Ramapuram and Arabic Aided High School, Uravakonda and the enrolment was decreases in the Mopidi, Amidyala, and P. Kowkuntla villages. It concludes that the midday meal scheme was shown a very little improvement in the enrolment and retention of the students of the Uravakonda mandal.

**Impact of the Scheme on Enrolment and Retention**

15. The midday meal shows a mixed impact on the achievement of the secondary school students of the Agali mandal.

16. The midday meal shows a mixed impact on the achievement of the secondary school students of the classes 6th, 8th and 10th in the Amadagur mandal.

17. The midday meal shows a high achievement in higher classes i.e., 8th, 9th and 10th of the secondary school students of the Amarapuram mandal.

18. The midday meal shows a high achievement in classes i.e., 7th, 9th and 10th of the secondary school students of the Uravakonda mandal.

**6.3. CONCLUSIONS**

On the strength of the findings of the present study, the following broad conclusions can be arrived at:
1. There is a wide difference between the male and female population as well as between the literacy rate in the district.

2. There is an equal growth of enrolment ratio between boys and girls for 6 to 15 age group and difference between both sex are seen in 11-12 and 13-15 age group in the district.

3. The dropout rate is lowest in the district.

4. The enrolment at primary level and secondary level is good in all four mandals of the district.

5. The enrolment is slightly variation between all classes in all selected mandals of the secondary schools. The enrolment rate is influenced by the Midday Meal was affected in class wise of the sample mandals. Poverty is general phenomena and it hinders the development of the individual and education.

6. The Class wise achievement is a mixed trend of hike in all the schools of the selected mandals of the district.

7. The socio-economic programmes implemented by the Government of India and Government of Andhra Pradesh is utilized by the selected mandals for development of the education of their children.

8. On the whole the miday meal programme was implemented in all these mandals and its impact was clearly shows on enrolment and achievement of the secondary school children.

6.4. RECOMMENDATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

Following are some of the feasible measures that would promote secondary education.

1. The quota of rice should be increased

2. It should be given regularly every month
3. For the smooth functioning of the scheme, the infrastructure facilities like storeroom, availability of adequate money for lifting the sacks etc. Should be improved
4. Efforts should be made to involve the community to share the work and other major things.
5. The scheme if it is properly planned and implemented in the light of the above discussions, offer promising results especially in the economically backward pockets of the state. However, the district needs thorough economic and educational development.
6. If possible, the implementation of the midday meal scheme is extended for all types of managements of the schools.
7. The awareness camps and Nutritional camps should conducted by the doctors and political leaders in the schools to fulfill the gaps of the nutritional facts in the midday meal.

6.5. SUGGETIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

On the basis of this investigation the following suggestions are made for the study.

The study attempted to look into the impact of National Nutrition programme (Mid day meals) on enrolment, retention and achievement of secondary school students in Anantapuram district of Andhra Pradesh state.

1. The working of the MDM scheme, difficulties, associated in implementation and likely suggestions for its improvement have been worked out in this study.
2. The study is based on the Secondary schools, data about the number of schools, number of students registered, number of them attending school, students achievement score etc.
3. The study covered 31 secondary schools from rural and urban areas of the 4 Mandals of the Anantapuram district of Andhra Pradesh state.
4. The study could be undertaken in other areas in all over Andhra Pradesh state to understand different historical, social, economical and educational background of districts and the students.

5. Observation in the rural areas could be undertaken by Mahila mandals, and voluntary organizations to collect the primary data for pursuing further studies in identifying the problems in implementing the midday meal programme effectively. For this the Government should provide monitory assistance to the field workers as investigators.

6. The study also conducted with the attitudes and perception of the parents, teachers, students and educational administrators.