

Chapter V

Functioning of the Mid Day Meal Scheme and its Related Problems

In this chapter it is analysed that the year , in which the scheme was started, the reactions of parents, teachers, students, the number of students are being benefited by the scheme, reasons for non- participation, food menu, the quality of the food, co-operation from School Development Committee members, no. of workers engaged, managing the scheme and quality of the cereals are all discussed.

Akshara Dasoha yojana was introduced for the year 2003 with the objective of feeding hunger children with nutritious food. The School Development Monitoring Committee members are allowed to take part in the scheme for the proper implementation of the scheme. The authority has prepared a food menu in such a way that it should satisfy the children of all the area of Karnataka. The government authority is managing the scheme for the proper implementation although the government is trying to provide the good quality of the cereals, but there is a non participation from few children because of some reasons. The scheme envisages the appointment of sufficient workers.

It is analysed the impact of the scheme on overall class room performance, health and teaching in primary schools of Raibag Taluka. While assessing the impact of the scheme children class room performance, their health and its impact on teaching are all studied.

To portray profile of beneficiaries of Mid Day Meal Scheme and their suggestion for improvement of the programe , the following things are studied. How many children are taking benefit from this scheme? Are their any suggestions to take proper benefit of this scheme ? A Few may not take the benefit of this scheme. What are the reasons for this non participation ? And asked suggestions for the improvement of the scheme. The following tables help to study all the above things.

Table 5.1
Starting year of the scheme in their school

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
2002	12	15	13	16
2003	64	80	59	74
2004	02	02	06	08
After 2004	02	03	02	02
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

It is observed that 80% of Head Masters and 74% of Assistant Masters have said that the scheme was started in the year 2003. 15% of Head Masters and 16% of Assistant Masters have opined that it was started in the year 2002. 2% of Head Masters and 8% Assistant Masters have said that it was started in the year 2004. Very few said that it was started after 2004.

Akshara Dasoha Yojana Scheme was started in the year 2003.

Table 5.2
Opinion of teachers about scheme

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Very useful & beneficial	66	82	57	71
It is a headache	04	05	01	01
Good for children & burden on teacher	07	09	10	13
Teacher's work load increased	03	04	12	15
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

82% of Head Masters and 71% of Assistant Masters have said that the present scheme is very useful & beneficial to the students. 5% of Head Masters and 1%

Assistant Masters have said that the Mid Day Meal scheme is headache. 9% of Head Masters and 13% of Assistant Masters have expressed their view that the scheme is good for children & it is a burden on teacher. 4% of Head Masters and 15% of Assistant Masters have said that this scheme has increased the workload of the teacher.

The scheme is useful and beneficial as per the observation. It satisfies the hunger of school going children. It helps their learning activity.

Table 5.3
Reactions of parents regarding the scheme

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
The scheme is good	58	72	47	59
Good but need to change food	19	24	28	35
Doubt about quality	03	04	05	06
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

72% of Head Masters and 59% of Assistant Masters have said that the scheme is good for children. 24% of Head Masters and 35% Assistant Masters have said that the scheme is good but need to change food. 4% of Head Masters and 6% Assistant Masters have said that it is doubt about the quality of food.

Table 5.4
Reactions of parents in the first month

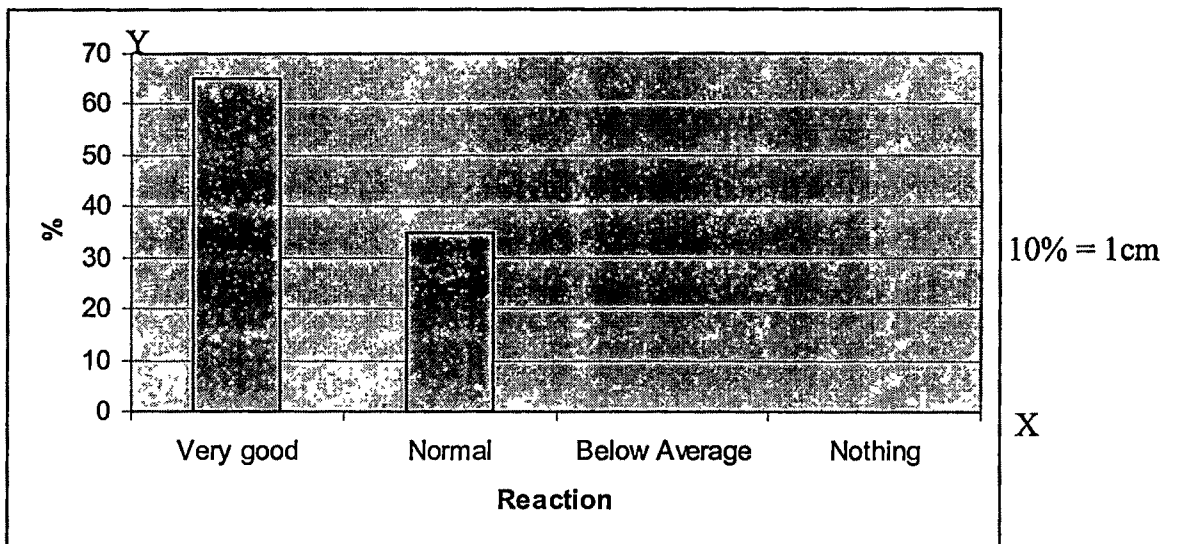
Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
very good	52	65	54	68
Normal	28	35	26	32
Below average	00	00	00	00
Nothing	00	00	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

65% of Head Masters and 68% of Assistant Masters have expressed their view that the parents reactions are good during the first month of the scheme. 35% of Head Masters and 32% Assistant Masters have said that it is normal.

The scheme received positive response as it was introduced.

Bar graph – 5.1

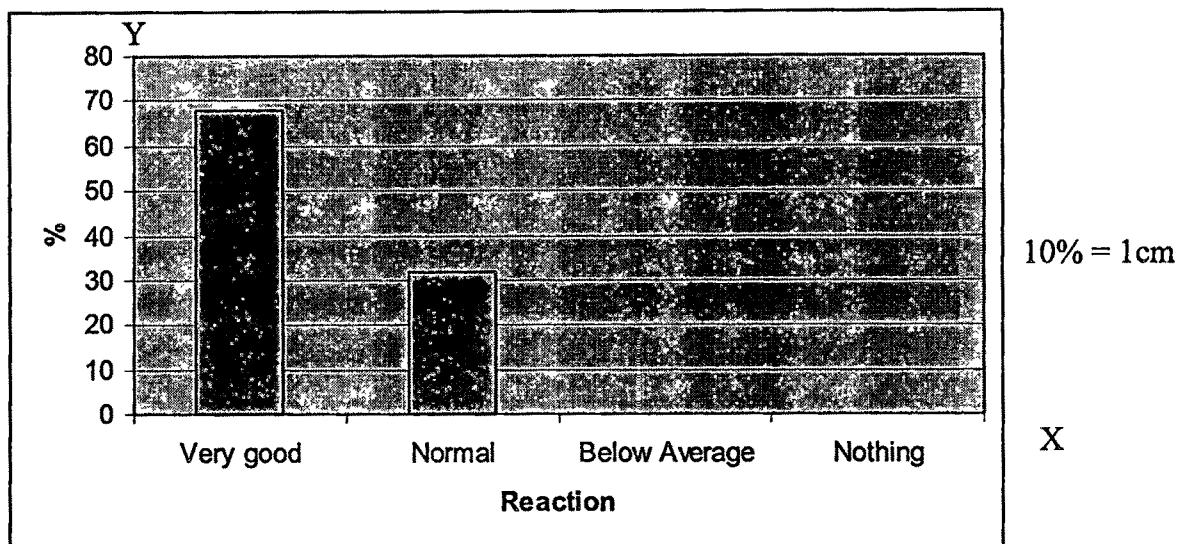
Response of Head masters about reactions of parents in the first month.



In the bar graph 5.1 o x – axis reactions of parents and o y – axis percentage of reactions. The height of the bar is 10% = 1 cm. 65% Head masters reacted the scheme is very good. So it is shown as 6.5 cm. 1cm=10% only 35% of Head masters reacted it is normal. So it is shown as 3.5 cm on the bar.

Bar graph 5.2

Response of Assistant masters about reactions of parents in the first month.



In the above bar graph 5.2 o x – axis reactions of parents and o y – axis percentage of reactions. The height of the bar is 1cm=10%. 68% Assistant masters reacted the scheme is very good. So it is shown as 6.8 cm. Only 32% of Assistant masters reacted it is normal. So it is shown as 3.2 cm on the bar.

Table No. 5.5

Students taking benefit of this scheme.

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
All 100% students	73	91	62	78
Except few	07	9	17	21
Half of the strength	00	00	01	01
More than half of the strength	00	00	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

91% of Head Masters & 78% of the Assistant Masters have said that 100% students take the benefit of this scheme. Only 9% of the Head Masters & 21% of the

Assistant Masters have said that except few other students are taking the benefit of this scheme.

Al most all the children in school are being benefited by this scheme.

Table No. 5.6
Suggestion for proper benefit of the scheme.

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
They Suggest	51	64	53	66
They would not Suggest	12	15	6	8
Food grains quality should be improved.	17	21	21	26
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

64% of Head Masters & 66% of Assistant Masters have suggested their suggestion for the improvement of the scheme. 15% of Head Masters & 8% of Assistant Masters would not suggest any thing. 21% of Head Masters & 26% of Assistant Masters have said that the food grains quality should be improved.

Many teachers have suggested that there is a need of qualitative food grains for preparing meal.

Table No. 5.7.

Reason for non participation.

Response	Head Masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Not good quality	40	50	30	37
Caste factor	07	09	08	10
House is near	33	41	42	53
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

50% of Head Masters & 37% of the Assistant Masters have said that the food given to the students is not of good quality. 9% of Head Masters & 10% of Assistant

Masters have opined that students are not participating in this scheme due to caste factor. 41% of the Head Masters & 53% of Assistant Masters have said that some students do not take food because their house is near to the school.

Few students refuse to take meal because of its low quality.

Table No. 5.8

Reason for disinterest.

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Parents do not allow	12	15	18	22
The quality of food is not good.	02	03	02	03
Every day the same item will get bore	66	82	60	75
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

15% of Head Masters & 22% of Assistant Masters have opined that some students are showing disinterest in this scheme because their parents are not allowing them. 3% of Head Masters & 3% of Assistant Masters have opined that some students are showing disinterest in this scheme because the quality of food is not good. 82% of Head Masters & 75% of Assistant Masters have said that students are showing disinterest because everyday the same item is given to them.

Some students dislike because every day the same item will get bore.

Table No 5.9

Food items prepaid in the school

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Chapati / Bread/ Vegetables	00	00	01	01
Rice /Curry .	12	15	17	22
Rice /Curry /Vegetables	65	81	61	76
Pulva	03	04	01	01
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

81% of Head Masters and 76% of Assistant Masters have said that the Mid Day Meal consists of Rice / Curry / Vegetables. 15% at HM and 22% of AM, have said that it consists of Rice and curry only. 4% of Head Masters and 1% of Assistant Masters have said that it consists of Pulav only.

The schools which have prepared the food in their own school provides Rice and curry every day. On special occasion the sweet is being provided.

Table No 5.10

Tasting of prepared food

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Yes, we do	78	97	76	95
None of our work	00	00	00	00
Some time we do	02	03	04	05
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

97% of Head Masters and 95% of Assistant Masters have said that before serving the food to the children its taste is checked. Only 5% of Assistant Masters have said that sometimes its taste is checked.

The prepared food is being tasted by the teachers before serving it to the children.

Table No 5.11

Regarding vitamins and proteins

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Yes, it will consist	64	80	53	66
It consist but less in quality	14	17	25	31
The quality is not good, so can't say	02	03	02	03
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

80% of Head Masters and 66% of Assistant Masters have said that the mid day meal consists of all vitamins and proteins. 17% of Head Masters and 31% of Assistant Masters have said that it consists of vitamins & proteins but they are less in quality. Only 3% of Head Masters and Assistant Masters have said that the quality is not good so they can not say anything exactly.

The hot meal consists of all vitamins and proteins.

Table No 5.12

Quality of food

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
The quality is excellent	28	35	28	35
The quality is least and not good	05	06	08	10
It needs to change in food	47	59	44	55
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

35% of Head Masters and Assistant Masters have said that the quality of the food is excellent. 6% of Head Masters and 10% of Assistant Masters have said that the quality is not good. 59% of Head Masters and 55% of Assistant Masters have said that it needs to change in food.

There is a need to change in the quality of Mid Day Meal. Every day same item gets bore. So there is a need of changing food items.

Table 5.13
Complaints of children's health

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Never	68	85	63	79
Always	02	02	02	02
Sometimes	10	13	15	19
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

85% of Head Masters and 79% of Assistant Masters have said that they have no health problem after taking the food of the scheme. 02% of Head Masters and Assistant Masters have said that they have health problem. 13% of Head Masters and 19% Assistant Masters have said that they have sometimes the health problem.

The health of the poor children improved a lot. They would not lack of nutrients.

Table 5.14
Action taken against the complaints

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Intimated higher authority	14	18	10	13
Solved at school level	58	72	65	81
Serving of food stopped.	00	00	00	00
No action	00	00	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

18% of Head Masters and 13% of Assistant Masters have said that they have intimated to the higher authority. 72% of Head Masters and 81% Assistant Masters have said that the complaints are solved at the school level only. Only 10% of Head Masters and 6% Assistant Masters have said that no action has taken against the complaints.

Complaints are being attended immediately by the concerned authority.

Table No 5.15

Co operation from School Development Monitoring Committee

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
No cooperation	03	04	04	05
Excellent cooperation	63	79	57	71
Only they give advice	09	11	16	20
Responsibility bear by the teacher	05	06	03	04
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

79% of Head Masters and 71% of Assistant Masters have said that School Development Monitoring Committee members would give full co-operation in preparing the hot food. 4% of Head Masters and 5% of Assistant Masters have said that there is no – co-operation from these people. 11% of Head Masters and 20% of Assistant Masters have said that only they give advice. 6% Head Masters and 4% of Assistant Masters said that this responsibility is borne by the teacher only.

School Development Monitoring Committee's co-operation is satisfactory (Few School Development Monitoring Committee members donate Kitchen utensils and donate food also).

Table No 5.16

Workers preparing mid day meal

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Sufficient	72	90	73	91
Not Sufficient	02	02	00	00
More	01	01	00	00
N G O	05	06	07	09
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

90% of Head Masters and 91% of Assistant Masters have said that sufficient number of workers are available to prepare Mid Day Meal. 2% of Head Masters have

said that they are not sufficient. 6% of Head Masters have said that it is the work of Non Government Organisation. There the numbers of workers are sufficient.

The sufficient numbers of workers are available for preparing the Mid Day Meal in school as well as in Non Government Organisation.

Table No 5.17

Proper Service of workers

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Providing.	76	95	75	94
Not providing.	00	00	01	01
They manage when there is an observation	04	05	04	05
N G O	00	00	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

95% of Head Masters and 94% of Assistant Masters have said that the workers of the Mid Day Meal Scheme are able to give proper service in time. 5% of Head Masters & Assistant Masters have said that they would serve if there was an observation from teachers.

The workers are trained and given proper service in time as they are being appointed and supervised in private sector.

Table No 5.18

Serving of food

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
The appointed cooks and assistant Teachers	70	88	75	93
Appointed students	04	05	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

88% of Head Masters & 93% of Assistant Masters have said that the appointed cooks and assistants would serve the food for students. 5% of Head Masters have said that the teacher serve the food for students. 7% of Head Masters have said that only appointed students serve the food.

If it is the school where the food is prepared the cook and assistant will serve the food. In some schools this is served by appointed teacher and students.

Table No 5.19

Representation of the scheme

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Principal & staff	52	65	49	61
Members of SDMC	13	16	20	25
SDMC & Staff Members	15	19	02	03
NGO	00	00	09	11
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

65% of Head Masters & 61 % of Assistant Masters have said that the principal and staff is the representative of Mid Day Meal Scheme in the school. 16% Head Masters & 25% of Assistant Masters have said that members of School Development Monitoring Committee are the representative of the scheme. 19% Head Masters & 3% of Assistant Masters have said that School Development Monitoring Committee & staff members are the representative of the scheme.

The principal and staff look after the Mid Day Meal Scheme.

Table No. 5.20

Managing of Mid day Meal Scheme.

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Local private society	16	20	14	17
Principal and staff	59	73	55	69
Members of S D M C	01	01	09	11
S D M C and staff members	04	06	02	03
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

73% of Head Masters and 69 % of Assistant Masters have said that principal and staff will manage the Mid Day Meal Scheme. 20% of Head Masters and 17 % of Assistant Masters have said that local private society will manage the scheme. 11% of Assistant Masters have said that School Development Monitoring Committee will manage the scheme.

Table No. 5.21

Managing accounts of food items

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Head Cook	24	30	24	30
Principal	51	64	50	62
One of the teacher	05	06	03	04
None of the above	00	00	03	04
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

64% of Head Masters and 62% of Assistant Masters have said that managing the accounts of day to day food items is the work of principal. 30% of Head Masters and 30% Assistant Masters have said that it is the work of Head cook. 6% of Head Masters and 4% of Assistant Masters have said that it is the work of one of the teachers.

Principal with the help of an assistant teacher manage the food accounts of the scheme.

Table No 5.22

Sending demand letter

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent (%)
Tahasildar	01	01	01	01
Taluka panchayat	75	94	74	93
Gram panchayat	01	01	00	00
B.E.O	03	04	05	06
D.C	00	00	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

94% of Head Masters and 93% of Assistant Masters have said that the demand letter would be sent to Taluka Panchayat. 6% of Assistant Masters have said that it is sent to Block Education Officer of Concern Taluka.

In taluka panchayat, there is an Additional Director for Akshara Dasoha Yojana, who receives the demand note from all the schools.

Table No 5.23

Receiving of cereals

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Every week	00	00	02	02
Every month	69	87	66	84
No Fixed time	02	02	06	07
After intimation	02	02	05	06
Not applicable	07	09	01	01
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

87 % of Head Masters and 84 % of Assistant Masters have said that every month they receive cereals from the Government.

2% Head Masters and 7% of Assistant Masters have said that there is no fixed time for receiving cereals.

Every month the food supplying contractor supplies food to schools as well as to Non Government Organisation, that is serving food.

Table No 5.24

Receiving gas in time

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
In time	59	74	65	81
No fixed time	05	06	07	09
Some time it is late	03	04	04	05
NGO	13	16	04	05
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

74% of Head Masters and 81 % of Assistant Masters have said that they receive gas in time. 6% of Head Masters & 9% of Assistant Masters have said that there is no fixed time in receiving gas. 4% of Head Masters and 5% of Assistant Masters have said that sometime it is late. 16% of Head Masters and 3% Assistant Masters have said that they receive food from Non Government Organisation. So the receiving of gas will not arise.

The schools receive gas in time most of the time.

Table No 5.25

Food is not prepared because of shortage of gas.

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Never	52	65	57	71
Always	00	00	00	00
Many times	17	21	02	03
One or two time	02	03	18	22
Non Government Organisation	09	11	03	04
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

65% of Head Masters and 71% of Assistant Masters have said that they would not have any time shortage of gas. 21% of Head Masters and 3% of Assistant Masters have said that many times the food is not prepared because of shortage of gas. 3% of Head Masters and 22% of Assistant Masters have said that one or two times they had shortage of gas. 11% of Head Masters 4% of Assistant Masters have said that the Non Government Organisation supplies food for their children.

Table No 5.26

A responsible person who brings vegetable

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Assistant cook	21	26	25	31
Teacher	7	9	8	10
Head Master	42	53	43	54
None	10	12	4	5
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

53% of Head Masters & 54% of Assistant Masters have said that Head Master is the responsible person who brings vegetables for preparation of Mid Day Meal. 26% of Head Masters and 31 % of Assistant Masters have said that it is the work of assistant cook. 9% of Head Masters & and 10% of Assistant Masters have said that it is the work of a teacher.

In many schools Head Masters brings vegetables, in some an appointed teacher brings it.

Table No 5.27

The food items provided by the Government

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent(%)	Units	Percent(%)
Rice, Oil & Salt	62	78	56	70
Rice, pulses	14	17	13	16
Oil	00	00	00	00
Chilli powder	00	00	03	04
Spices	00	00	03	04
Vegetables	04	05	05	06
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

78 % of Head Masters and 70% of Assistant Masters have said that the Government provides rice/pulses, oil & salt. 17% of Head Masters and 16% of Assistant Masters have said that the Government provides only rice. 5% of Head Masters and 4% of Assistant Masters have said that the Non Government Organisation supplies food for their children.

The Government provides rice, oil, salt dal and contingency for other expenses.

Table No 5.28

Items brought by the teacher to prepare meal

Response	Head masters		Assistant masters	
	Units	Percent (%)	Units	Percent(%)
Spice, vegetables, chilli powder	62	78	57	71
Rice	04	05	04	05
Oil	01	01	00	00
Salt	10	12	00	00
Chilli Powder	00	00	04	05
Spice	00	00	12	15
Vegetables	00	00	03	04
NGO	03	04	00	00
TOTAL	80	100	80	100

78% of Head Masters and 71% of Assistant Masters have said that the teacher brings chilli powder, spice and vegetable to prepare food. 5% of Head Masters and

Assistant Masters have said that rice is brought by the teacher. 6% of Assistant Masters have said that chilli powder is brought by the teacher. 15% of Assistant Masters have said that spice is brought by the teacher. 4% of Head Masters and Assistant Masters have said that it is the work of Non Government Organisation.

The appointed teacher brings chilli powder, vegetables and spices.