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**AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON ATTITUDE OF TEACHERS AND
PARENTS TOWARDS ENROLMENT AND STAGNATION
UNDER MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME IN UPPER PRIMARY
SCHOOLS OF UTTAR PRADESH REGION**

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Abstract

The purpose of present study is to study the attitude of teachers and parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh. The design of this study is descriptive in nature. The sample of 300 teachers and 300 parents were selected by using random sampling technique. The attitude was measured through self-made attitude scale for teachers and parents. The statistical technique used were mean, standard deviation and t-test. The findings of present study indicated that there is no significant difference in attitude of teachers and parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

Keywords:-Mid-day meal scheme, Attitude, Enrolment and Stagnation.

Introduction

Education is a continuous process of life. The personality of a child is improved by the education. Education plays an important role in making any country on the path of progress. The development of any country can be complete only if the literacy rate is the same in all sections of

society in that country. India is poor developing where even today children in poor families are seen as a source of income. Due to this children are not able to take education. Education and Health are the two basic requirements of children. These primary needs are found to be more basic and urgent for school going children as we go down to the level of primary school. The nation is committed to achieving universalization of Elementary Education Covering Children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. The factor identified for such a situation are the large scale poverty, malnutrition and under nutrition amongst the school going children. Extreme poverty and social discrimination are the major cause of literacy several programs have been launched to attract children to schools. The Scheme ‘ National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education’ commonly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme was launched on the 15th August, 1995 on nationwide scale by the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This scheme launched all over the country, not only to attract the children into the embrace of primary schooling but also to provide nutritional support for generating, necessary interest both physical and psychological among the children to ensure their presence in the school. Mid-Day Meal Scheme was initiated on the basis of the philosophy that "when children have “ to sit in class with empty stomachs, they cannot focus on learning” .

Review of Literature

A large body of literature available on Mid-day Meal programme. Studies on various parameters of mid-day meal were conducted at national and state level.

According to **Rashmi Tiwari (2016)** found that most of the children are willing to come to school even if government would have discontinued MDMP i.e. it is no longer the reason for increase in enrolment and regular attendance in schools.

Singh (2016) found that Mid-Day Meal Scheme is a burden on the teachers and it also disrupted the teaching-learning process.

Rana, S.S. (2014) the scheme has improved the attendance of students in schools but still could not make up the increased enrolment and retention of students.

Uma (2013) analysed that there was no proper kitchen in the school to prepare food and there was lack of infrastructure facilities.

Bhargav (2011) teacher’ s responded that mid-day meal scheme would be continue and they responded that attendance rate increased due to the implementation of the scheme.

Need of the Study

India is the seventh largest country geographically, second most populated and twelfth largest economy in the world. The average literacy rate is 65.38 %. Despite this, the problem of malnutrition remains in India. Good food and education are very important for every children. The mid-day meal program was started with two major objectives: firstly, to enhance the child' s nutrition level and secondly, to provide the basic education. Thus, the mid-day meal program was basically introduced to improve the overall development of the primary school children' s education. Therefore, through this paper it has been tried to know the attitude of teachers and parents towards the mid-day meal scheme.

Research Methodology

The study was designed on descriptive research methodology. Survey method was used for the study. All the teachers and parents of Uttar Pradesh state have been taken as the population of the study. A sample of 300 teachers and 300 parents were chosen by using random sampling techniques. A self-developed attitude scale has been used to know the attitude of teachers and parents towards enrolment and stagnation in upper primary school under mid-day meal scheme. Data was analysed using statistical technique such as mean, standard deviation and t-test.

Objective of the study

- 1 To study the attitude of teachers towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.
- 2 To study the attitude of parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

Hypothesis

H01: There is no significant difference in attitude of teachers towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

H02: There is no significant difference in attitude of parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

Data Analysis

Hypothesis- (1)

There is no significant difference in attitude of teachers towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t-value	Result
Male teachers	75	85.10	4.56	1.53	Accepted
Female teachers	75	84	4.20		

Analysis and Interpretation – An observation of the above table makes it clear that the mean scores of male and female teachers are 85.10 and 84. The standard deviation of male and female teachers are 4.56 and 4.20. The table value of “ t” for 0.05 level is 1.98. The calculated value of “ t” is 1.53 which is less than table value of “ t” . That’ s proves, there is no significant difference in attitude of teachers towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted.

Hypothesis- (2)

There is no significant difference in attitude of parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh.

Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t-value	Result
Male	75	83.47	3.89	0.77	Accepted
Female	75	83	3.56		

Analysis and Interpretation – An observation of the above table makes it clear that the mean scores of male and female parents are 83.47 and 83. The standard deviation of male and female parents are 3.89 and 3.56. The table value of “ t” for 0.05 level is 1.98. The calculated value of “ t” is 0.77 which is less than table value of “ t” . That’ s proves, there is no significant difference in attitude of parents towards enrolment and stagnation under mid-day meal scheme in upper primary schools of Uttar Pradesh. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted.

Conclusion

From the above discussion it was concluded that Mid-Day Meal programme is one of the most important programmes of the Government to encourage children to come to schools and

participate in the learning process without worrying for their meal, especially that of day time. Because of this scheme the enrolment of students at primary level is increasing significantly.

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