

VSM COLLEGE(A)

RAMACHANDRAPURAM

NAAC Re-accredited with 'B' Grade at 2.69 CGPA

(Affiliated to ADIKAVI NANNAYYA UNIVERSITY, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM)



**OUTCOME OF THE UGC FUNDED
MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECTS**

**Impact of Mid-Day Meal Scheme on
Education, Health and Nutrition of
School Children in East Godavari
District and Y.S.R. District
of Andhra Pradesh**



Malnutrition in India

Dr.S.Ramanjaneyulu, Principal (FAC), Reader & Head, Department of Economics, VSM College (A), Ramachandrapuram, E.G.Dt, A.P.

Abstract

An attempt is made in this paper is to analyze the concept of malnutrition in India. It covers the magnitude of hunger population in India, fall in intake of calorie, food grains availability, survey on stunted children in Andhra Pradesh, Guidelines to reduce malnutrition, four golden rules, 1 big idea, malnutrition, quit India and programme to address malnutrition. It is found that today 46 per cent of children are stunted in India because they simply do not get enough to eat. Almost one out of every two children in this country goes to bed on an empty stomach. Malnutrition is the principle cause of child deaths. Half of all child deaths in India could be prevented if this one issue was tackled. Children die because malnutrition lowers a child's resistance to infection. As a result, they become vulnerable even when they have eminently treatable conditions like diarrhoea and respiratory infections. Meanwhile, According to the Ministry of Women and Child Development when the expectant mother gets proper nutrition, there is no place for malnutrition. This paper presents guidelines to reduce malnutrition and four golden rules.

Key words: calorie, food grains, malnutrition, quit India

Introduction

Josette Sheeran, the Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has lamented the severity of world hunger and said her biggest dream is to see no child goes hungry. Worldwide, 1.02 billion people or one in six of the world's total population are suffering from hunger and a child dies of hunger in every six seconds. Every child deserves at least one humble cup of food a day. The world food chief said her life changed in 1986 when she saw an Ethiopian mother holding her 8- month-old child in the famine. The child cried for food, but the mother could not satisfy the child's basic need, only to see the child die in her arms. In many of the world's hunger hotspots where land is too dry or too wet, she said the conditions are going to get more severe. It is predicted that it will get worse¹.

Nearly one – sixth of the people in the world are affected by chronic hunger. At any time, around a quarter of all children suffer from under – nutrition. Not only are they more likely to die, but also they do less well in school and, later in life, earn less than those who were well nourished. Proper feeding during the period from conception to a child's second birthday is critical.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) 2012, said that if the right action was taken now to boost economic growth and invest in agriculture, particularly in poor countries, the U.N. goal of reducing by one-half the number of the world's hungry people by 2015 was very much within reach. To be sure, 870 million hungry people were still far too many hungry people, said the heads of the three U.N. food agencies in a foreword. About



842 million people, or roughly one in eight, suffered from chronic hunger in 2011-13, down from 868 million people reported for the 2010-12 period, according to the new *State of Food Insecurity in the World 2013* report released on October 1, 2013 by United Nations food agencies. Interestingly, the agencies observed that while a vast majority of hungry people lived in developing regions, 15.7 million lived in developed countries⁴.

Malnutrition in India

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights". When it comes to nutrition, all of India's children are not equal. According to India's third National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) of 2005-06, 20 per cent of India children under five-years-old are wasted due to acute under nutrition and 48 per cent are stunted due to chronic under nutrition. Seventy per cent of children between six months and 59 months are anaemic. Despite a booming economy, nutrition deprivation among India's children remains widespread⁵.

In absolute numbers, an average 25 million children are wasted and 61 million are stunted. The state of child under-nutrition in India is-first and foremost-a major threat to the survival growth, and development and of great importance for India as a global player. Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh has referred to under-nutrition as 'a matter of national shame'.

Children who are undernourished have substantially lower chances of survival than children who are well-nourished. Undernourished children are much more likely to suffer from serious infections and to die from common childhood illnesses such as diarrhoea,

pneumonia and measles. More than a third of all deaths in children aged five years or younger can be attributable to under nutrition.

A number of emerging economies have encountered nutrition challenges similar to those currently facing India. For example, China reduced child undernutrition by more than half (from 25 per cent to 8 per cent) between 1990 and 2002, Brazil reduced child undernutrition by 60 per cent (from 18 per cent to 7 per cent) from 1975 to 1989 ; Thailand reduced child undernutrition by half (from 50 per cent to 25 per cent) in less than decade (1982-1986) ; and Viet Nam reduced child undernutrition by 40 per cent (from 45 per cent to 27 per cent) between 1990 and 2006⁶.

India is home to one-fifth of the world's children around (440 million) and they constitute 42 per cent of population. These young citizens of the country constitute a potential demographic resource that could propel the nation to higher orbits of economic progress and human development. Every third malnourished child in the world lives in India; every second Indian child is underweight ; three out of four children in India are anaemic ; and every second new born has reduced learning capacity due to iodine deficiency⁷.

One-third of all malnourished children live in India and 44 per cent of Indian children are underweight. More than two-thirds of the infants die in the first month and 92 per cent of these deaths are due to easily preventable diseases like pneumonia and diarrhea. Eight out of 10 people among the middle class do not know that nearly two million children under five die every year of diseases and conditions that are easily treatable and preventable⁸.



If the malnourished in India formed a country, it would be the world's fifth largest-almost the size of Indonesia. According to Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), 237.7 million Indians are currently undernourished (up from 224.6 million in 2008). The number of Indians who cannot afford the daily minimum (minimal calorie intake 2200 rural/2100 urban) could equal the entire population of Europe⁹.

Today 46 per cent of children are stunted in India because they simply do not get enough to eat. India has more malnourished children than neighbouring Bangladesh. Even African countries like the Congo, Lesotho Tanzania and Rwanda are better placed than India.

Almost one out of every two children in this country goes to bed on an empty stomach. Malnutrition is the principle cause of child deaths. Half of all child deaths in India could be prevented if this one issue was tackled. Children die because malnutrition lowers a child's resistance to infection. As a result, they become vulnerable even when they have eminently treatable conditions like diarrhoea and respiratory infections.

The rate of malnourishment is going down so slowly as to be virtually negligible. Between 1998-99 and 2005-06, the rate only came down by one per cent. At this rate, the challenge of cutting down on the prevalence of malnutrition in children by half by 2015, a part of the Millennium Development Goals, will be impossible¹⁰.

One-third Andhra Pradesh children stunted: survey

One-third of children in Andhra Pradesh are stunted despite falling poverty, considerable economic growth

and the development of significant policies. Stunting has serious long-term implications for health, psycho-social well-being and educational achievement.

Despite higher enrolment, drop-out and school quality remain critical issues.

Around one in four (27 per cent of Younger Cohort [YC]) who were aged 6-18 months in 2001 and were 8 years in 2009 children have low body mass index (BMI) for age, while almost one in three are stunted (Low height for age) at 8 years though it has fallen from 33 per cent at 5 years. In 2009, YC children in rural areas were experiencing a higher prevalence of low BMI for age (29 per cent) as well as stunting (34 per cent) than children from urban areas for whom the corresponding figures were 22 per cent and 16 per cent.

The experience of both stunting and thinness (BMI) is patterned by caste or ethnic background. Comparing the two cohorts in 2002 and 2009-when they were both aged 8-suggests stunting rates went down for the other castes and backward classes but hardly moved for Scheduled Castes and actually increased for children from Scheduled Tribe backgrounds.

Table 1 : Percentage of thin or underweight 8 years old children in in Andhra Pradesh

Category	2002	2009
Male	32.1	29.5
Female	19.9	24.6
Urban	23.7	21.6
Rural	26.6	29.6
Scheduled Tribe	20.8	22.5
Scheduled Caste	25.4	28.4
Backward Classes	29.1	30.4
Other Castes	22.0	21.4

Source : Young Lives, *The Impact of Growth on Childhood Poverty in Andhra Pradesh, 2011*.



Fall in intake of calorie, food grains availability:

Despite surplus food stocks in the central pool, the per capita per day intake of calorie and protein has declined in the country between 2004-05 and 2009-10. The per capita net availability of foodgrains including rice, wheat, other cereals and pulses too declined every year between 2006 and 2010, and, while 42.5 per cent children under five years under-weight, 69.5 per cent are anaemic.

Although calorie intake is higher in the rural areas compared to urban areas, it has declined in both populations. Calorie intake in 2004-05 was 2,047 Kcal and protein intake was 57 grams in rural populations. It declined to 2020 Kcal and 55 grams in 2009-10. In urban populations, the calorie intake of 2020 Kcal and protein intake of 57 gram in 2004-05, fell to 1946 Kcal and 53.5 grams respectively in 2009-10.

The per capita availability of food grains per year in 2006 was 162.5 kg. This has come down to 160.1 kg in 2010. The rice and wheat stocks in the country were 59.6 million tonnes as against the buffer norm of 21.2 million tonnes. While the estimated production of pulses was 17.5 million tonnes in 2012-13, the demand was 20.4 million tonnes and the gap of around 3 million tonnes is met by imports. In edible oils, the total consumption during 2011-12 was 18.9 million tonnes and 9.9 million tonnes was imported.

The total food grains allocation in the targetted Public Distribution System and for welfare schemes was 62.7 million tonnes in 2012-13. The National Food Security Bill that provides for mandatory distribution of subsidized foodgrains to 67 per cent of population¹¹.

Guidelines to reduce malnutrition

According to the Ministry of Women and Child Development when the expectant mother gets proper nutrition, there is no place for malnutrition.

1. The foundation of a healthy baby is laid in a healthy mother's womb.
2. A nutrition and balanced diet including green leafy vegetables, cereals, pulses, milk, eggs, fruits, etc. is necessary.
3. Pregnant mothers should eat more than their usual intake-approximately 25 per cent more.
4. Pregnant mothers should avail of iron and folic acid tablets from the Anganwadi or local health centre, free of cost.
5. Pregnant mothers should get at least 8 hours of sleep in the night and at least 2 hours of rest during the daytime.
6. Pregnant mothers should avail of nutritious meals from the Anganwadi and consume it regularly.
7. Pregnant mothers should be kept tension-free. Take care that a happy environment is maintained around her.
8. If proper care of the mother is not taken during pregnancy, the child might be malnourished.

Four golden rules, 1 big idea, Malnutrition, Quit India

1. Proper nutrition for the mother during pregnancy.
2. Mother's first milk is essential for the baby.
3. Only mother's milk for the first six months.
4. And then, a nutritious diet along with mother's milk¹².



A Programme to address malnutrition

The Centre has finally approved the rollout of the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Programme to address the problems of maternal and child under-nutrition in the country. The programme, recommended by the Prime Minister's National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges in 2010, will be implemented in 200 high-burden districts in two phases at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,213.19 crore. It will be a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the National Nutrition Mission, with the Centre-State cost sharing ratio 90:10 for all components in the north-eastern States and special Category States, and 75:25 for the other States and the Union Territories.

The first phase will begin in 100 districts in 2013-14, and the rest will be covered in the second in 2014-15. The National Mission Steering Group and the Empowered Programme Committee constituted for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Mission will be the highest administrative and technical bodies for ensuring effective planning, implementation, monitoring and supervision.

The programme will bring in strong nutrition focus in various sectoral plans and provide gap-filling support to key nutrition-related intervention targets to contribute to the prevention of and reduction in child under-nutrition (underweight prevalence in children under three) ; and reduction in the levels of anaemia among children, adolescent girls and women. It will also work for the establishment of State and District Nutrition Councils¹³.

References

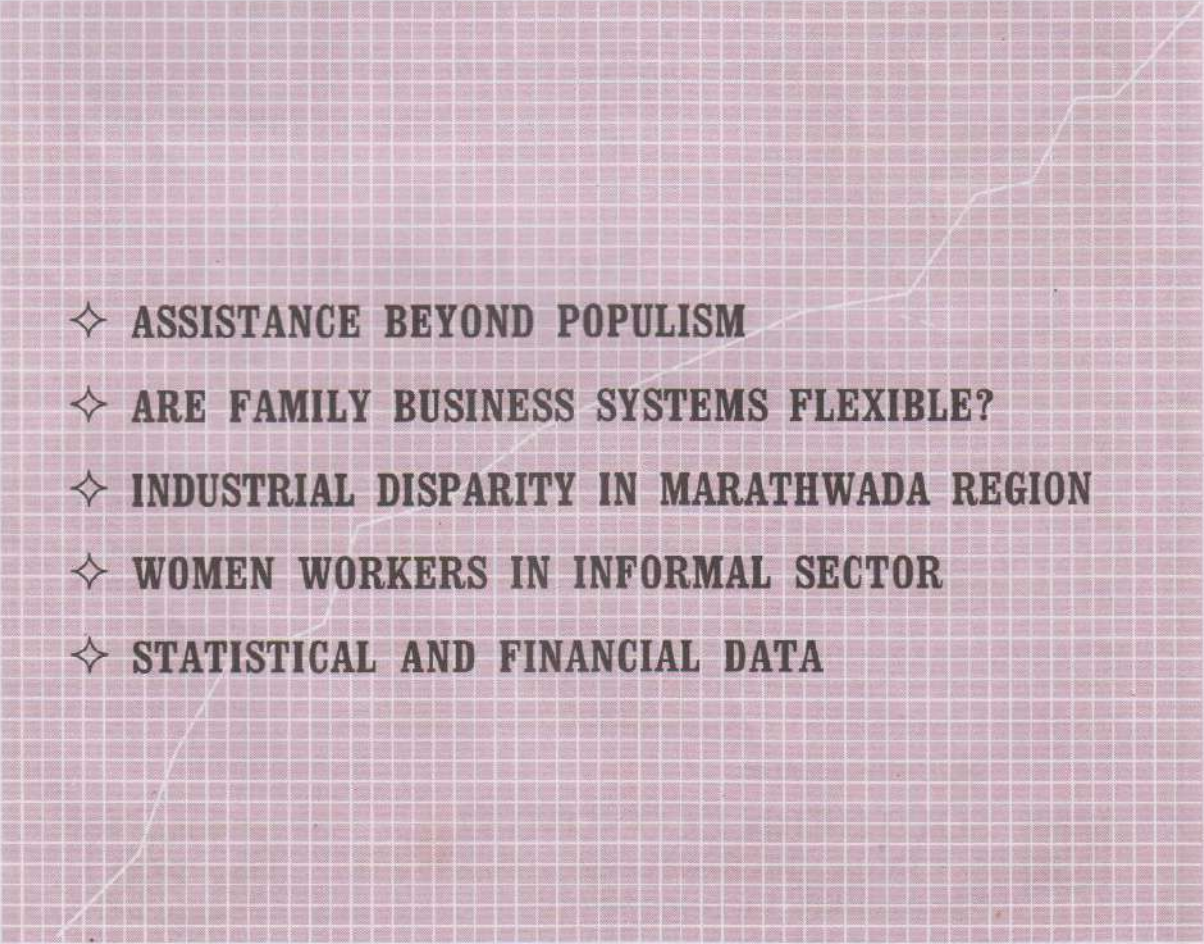
1. Josette Sheeran, Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme in an interview with Xinhua on the sidelines of the United Nations climate change conference in Copenhagen in December 2009.
2. David Nabarro, 'Acting on nutritional needs', *The Hindu*, Feb.12, 2011, p.13.
3. FAO, *State of Food Security Report*, 2012.
4. United Nations, *State of Food Insecurity in the World*, 2013.
5. GOI, *National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3)2005-06*, New Delhi.
6. Karin Hulshof, 'Child undernutrition in India is a human rights issue', *The Hindu*, Dec.10,2009, p.9.
7. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President of India, 'Statistics Day-2010' New Delhi, June 30,2010.
8. A coalition of organisations (UNICEF, PLAN and CARE, and World Vision), *Survey on the Global Movement for Children*, New Delhi, 2010.
9. Ananya Mukherjee, 'From food security to food justice', *The Hindu*, Feb.1, 2012, p.14.
10. Kalpana Sharma, 'Saving India's Children', *The Hindu*, Jan 9,2011, p.M3.
11. K.V.Thomas, Food Minister, GOI, total Parliament on May, 2013.
12. GOI, *Ministry of Women and Child Development*, New Delhi.
13. Aarti Dhar, 'A Programme to address malnutrition', *The Hindu*, Jan 2, 2014, p.18.

ISSN 0038-4046

SE SOUTHERN ECONOMIST

54th Year of Publication

Volume 54 Number 19 ₹ 75

- 
- ✧ ASSISTANCE BEYOND POPULISM
 - ✧ ARE FAMILY BUSINESS SYSTEMS FLEXIBLE?
 - ✧ INDUSTRIAL DISPARITY IN MARATHWADA REGION
 - ✧ WOMEN WORKERS IN INFORMAL SECTOR
 - ✧ STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL DATA

FEBRUARY 1, 2016



SOUTHERN ECONOMIST

Established : MAY 1962

ISSN 0038-4046

Vol. 54 February 1, 2016 No. 19



Founder Editor : **K. N. SUBRAHMANYA**

Editor : **Mrs. Susheela Subrahmanya**

Joint Editor : **Dr. Vijayalakshmi V.**

Editorial Board

Mr. B. S. Bhandary

Dr. N.S. Vishwanath

Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar

Dr. Subhash Sharma

Ms. Melanie P. Kumar

Administrative & Editorial Office

No. 9, I Main, Jamia Masjid Complex

I Floor, 10 & 11, Palace Guttahalli

Bangalore - 560 003

Phone: 080-2334 2330

Published on

1st and 15th of EVERY MONTH

Annual Subscription : **Rs. 1800/-** (Inland)

150 \$ (Foreign Surface Mail)

The views expressed in the articles & reports in this magazine are those of the authors and not those of Southern Economist - Editor

CONTENTS

Editorial

Assistance Beyond Populism

– Vijayalakshmi V. 5

Articles

Are Family Business Systems Flexible?

– Meenu Mary Margaret and K.B. Akhilesh 7

Target Costing Practice in PSUs: A Critical Review

– Suresh Kumar K. and Biju T. 12

Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Role of NGOs – S. Ramanjaneyulu 17

Re-settlement of Ex-servicemen in Kerala:

Problems and Policies – Sudha A.K. and K.V. Pavithran 22

Industrial Disparity in Marathwada Region

– Nitin D. Ade 27

Women Workers in the Informal Sector in Karnataka: A Study

– S. Jayalakshmi Priya and Kumuda 30

Impact of Trade Agreement on Plantation Sector

A Study With Reference to SAFTA

– Aparna V and Tomy Mathew 36

Economic Analysis of Ginger Cultivation in Hosanagara

– Sharath A.M. 40

Payment Revolution – Preparing for Participation

– R. Gandhi 45

Fifth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2015-16

– Raghuram G. Rajan 48

The Gandhian Talisman

Conceptualizing 'Human Security'

– D. Jeevan Kumar 51

Karnataka Notes

53

News Snippets

54

Views on Current Issues

56

Economic and Financial Data

57

Mid-Day Meal Scheme: Role of NGOs

By S. Ramanjaneyulu*

Annamrita literally means "food as pure as nectar" and under this apt name the ISKCON Food Relief Foundation has been implementing the Mid-Day Meal Scheme of the Government of India. The Annamrita logo unit forms a triangle which connotes a nutrition pyramid and suggests a positive upward movement.

Annamrita is not just a social organization; it is a concept, an ideology, a change agent and most importantly a mother, a mother whose sole focus is to nurture her child so that he/she grows up to be a healthy, well-fed adult. Because it is food that nourishes not only body but also mind; it is food that drives our being and help us keep our body healthy and our mind fresh.

A vast majority of the Indian population is still unable to get one square meal a day. This is because people are stuck in a vicious circle of poverty and illiteracy. Annamrita has resolved to liberate the underprivileged from this vicious circle by serving sanctified food. It is believed that imbued with a spiritual ambience in Annamrita's hi-tech kitchens, the meal so prepared nourishes the mind, body and soul of the child who eats it.

The genesis of Annamrita's vision dates back to 1974, when Srila

Prabhupada, Founder Acharya of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), at an ISKCON temple in Mayapura (West Bengal), was looking out from the window in his room. He noticed a group of village children fighting with street dogs over scraps of food. Shocked and saddened by what he saw, Srila Prabhupada turned to his disciples and said, "No one within a ten mile radius of our temples should go hungry".

When the Government of India launched a strategic program called the Mid-Day Meal Scheme to fight two of the most pressing problems of India - hunger and illiteracy, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation saw a great opportunity to start providing children with nutritious food to support their education. And since then, it has set out on this journey of feeding children nutritious food and of staying true to the vision of the founder.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme in A.P.: Non-Government Organizations: In Andhra Pradesh, the MDMS was implemented in 5,82,388 schools covering 74.6 lakh school children during the year 2002-03. With the

Centre providing rice at free of cost and the programme is being implemented by organizations like DWORA, Naandi, ISKCON, and Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust.

Findings of the Survey: The survey was conducted through schedule method and the necessary information was collected from the ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Rajahmundry, Kadapa and Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust, Polamuru.

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation - Rajahmundry

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Rajahmundry is situated in ISKCON Hare Krishna Land, Gouthami Ghat, Rajahmundry, East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. The mid-day meal scheme was started by ISKCON, Rajahmundry on October 13, 2008. The programme covers Rajahmundry town and rural schools. The number of schools covered under the ISKCON MDMS is 61 of which 40 schools are in urban area and the remaining 21 schools in rural area. The number of students benefited are 10,012. The urban area students are 6,008 and rural schools students are 4,004.

* Dr. S. Ramanjaneyulu, Principal (FAC), Reader & Head, Department of Economics, VSM College (A), Ramachandrapuram-533255, East Godavari District, A.P.

Table-1
Cost per student class I to V

Item	Government support	Actual cost	Difference
Rice	100 grams	100 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	4.35	7	2.65

Source : Field data.

Table -2
Cost per student class VI to X

Item	Government support	Actual cost	Difference
Rice	150 grams	150 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	6	10	4

Table -3
Menu followed

Day	Menu
Monday	Rice, Sambar, Buttermilk
Tuesday	Rice, Vegetable Curry, Rasm/Buttermilk
Wednesday	Rice, Sambar, Banana
Thursday	Rice, Green Leaves/ Vegetables/Tamota Dal/ Rasam/Buttermilk
Friday	Rice, Sambar, Buttermilk
Saturday	Sweet Pongal / Vegetable Rice/ Lemon Rice/ Tamarind Rice, Sweet / Curry

Source : Field data.

Table-4
Employees in ISKCON Rajahmundry

Sl.No.	Category	No. of Employees
1	Kitchen supervisors	2
2	Head cooks	2
3	Cooks	6
4	Helpers	14
5	Security Staff	2
6	Drivers	6
7	Assistants for vehicles	6
Total		38

Source: Field data

The particulars relating to the cost of a student, menu and workers are given in tables-1 to 4.

1,600 kgs rice is cooked per day. Diesel is used as fuel. Cost of diesel is Rs. 5,000 per day. Earlier, meals was prepared with LPG and used 10 cylinders in a day. Now, the Government stopped supply of LPG at subsidized price to MDMS. Firewood is also used for preparation of curries.

Rice is supplied by the Government. Rice is always available. Availability of rice at the time of survey was 1,600 kgs. The quality of rice is not good. Conversion cost is paid. ISKCON purchases dal (redgram) from Macherla in Guntur district at the rate of Rs. 60 per kg and vegetables, other ingredients from local market. While buttermilk is prepared, curd is purchased from the market.

The meal is transported to schools by route vehicles. There are 6 vehicles of which 3 are donated by Rotary Club, Rajahmundry. The vehicle assistants will collect the attendance of students from the headmasters.

The records maintained by the ISKCON are : 1. Rice Acquittance Register, 2. Rice Utilization Register, 3. Conversion Cost Register, 4. Menu Register, 5. Student Attendance Register, 6. Workers Attendance Register, 7. Employees Payment Acquittance Register.

The salary of the workers ranges from Rs.6,000 to 7,000 per month. The government payment of honorarium is meagre. It is not sufficient to meet the salaries of the staff. Moreover, there is no regular payment from the Government. The balance amount is adjusted from donations. The ISKCON accepts donations in cash and kind.

Table-5 – Cost per student class I to V

Item	Government Support	Actual Cost	Difference
Rice	100 grams	100 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	4.35	6.5	2.15

Table-6 – Cost per student class VI to X

Item	Government Support	Actual Cost	Difference
Rice	150 grams	150 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	6.00	8.00	2.00

Table-7 – Menu followed

Day	Menu
Monday	Rice, Sambar, Curdrice
Tuesday	Rice, Dal, Rasam
Wednesday	Rice, Sambar, Appadam
Thursday	Rice, Chetni, Rasam
Friday	Rice, Sambar, Curdrice
Saturday	Lemon Rice, Payasam

Table-8 – Employees in ISKCON Kadapa

Sl.No.	Category	No. of Employees
1	Managers	2
2	Kitchen Supervisors	2
3	Head Cooks	2
4	Cooks	6
5	Helpers	11
6	Security Staff	3
7	Drivers	7
8	Assistants (Vehicles)	7
Total		40

Table-9 – No. of student beneficiaries

Sl.No.	Type of school	No. of schools
1	Primary Schools	109
2	U.P. Schools	11
3	High Schools	24
Total		144

The ISKCON, Rajahmundry, is supplying nutritious food to the school children with commitment, discipline and cleanliness. The students consume the food happily and without wastage.

The Mid-day Meal Program Director of ISKCON, Rajahmundry, Sri H.G. Satya Gopinath Das has said that the Government should supply quality rice and regular payment of conversion cost and honorarium to the workers. The conversion cost is also enhanced according to the market prices.

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation – Kadapa

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Kadapa is located at Industrial Estate, RIMS Road, Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh. The mid-day meal scheme was commenced on January 24, 2009 by ISKCON, Kadapa. The ISKCON is serving food to the school children of Kadapa town and rural area. The number of schools covered is 115. The urban area schools are 95 and rural area schools are 20. The students covered under the scheme are 8,009. The urban area children are 6,005 and the remaining 2,004 children belong to rural area.

The data of ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Kadapa is shown in Tables 5 to 8.

There is no ISKCON temple in Kadapa. There is a proposal to construct a temple and a gosala. At present, the ISKCON is preparing food in Municipal Corporation Building. It is a rent free building.

Rice is delivered by Tahasildar, Kadapa. Rice is not of good quality. There are insects, muds, seeds in the rice. Rice is processed through machines. Stones, dust and other particles are eliminated by workers as well as machines. Rice is always

Table-10
Cost per student class I to V

Item	Government Support	Actual Cost	Difference
Rice	100 grams	100 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	4.35	8	3.65

Table-11
Cost per student class VI to X

Item	Government Support	Actual Cost	Difference
Rice	150 grams	150 grams	Nil
Conversion cost (Rs.)	6	9.5	3.5

Table-12
Menu followed

Day	Menu
Monday	Rice, Sambar and Egg
Tuesday	Rice, Vegetables and Rasam
Wednesday	Rice, Dal and Curry Leaves
Thursday	Rice, Sambar
Friday	Rice, Vegetables and Rasam
Saturday	Rice, Dal and Sweet

Table-13
Employees strength

Sl.No.	Category	No.of employees
1	Managers	2
2	Kitchen Supervisors	5
3	Head Cooks	5
4	Cooks	10
5	Helpers	40
6	Security Staff	3
7	Drivers	15
8	Assistants (Vehicles)	15
Total		95

Source : Field data.

available. There is no rice deficit. 100 quintals of rice stock is available at the time of survey.

Rice and curries are prepared by steam. The steam is made by firewood. There is no supply of LPG. The ISKCON is purchasing firewood at the cost of Rs. 4,000 per tonne. The provisions are purchased monthly once. Vegetables are purchased everyday in the local market.

Meals are supplied to the schools on the basis of attendance of students given by the headmasters. The meals are delivered through route vehicles. The vehicles start at 10.00 a.m. from the ISKCON and deliver meals at the respective schools and collect the vessels on return. There are 6 vehicles. 5 vehicles are purchased by ISKCON and one vehicle is donated by the public. The ISKCON, Kadapa accepts donations in kind such as dal, masala items, oil, vegetables etc.

The salary of the staff ranges from Rs.5,000 to 7,000 per month. There is no regular payment of honorarium and conversion cost from the government. There is a dues of Rs. 30 lakhs from the government.

The Mid-day Meal Program Director of ISKCON, Kadapa, Sri H.G.Rupeshwar Chaitanya Das has said that there must be regular payment of bills and honorarium from the government. Quality rice is also supplied.

Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust - Polamuru

Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust is located at Polamuru village, Anaparthi mandal, East Goadavari district of Andhra Pradesh. The Trust started the MDMS in September 2008. The Trust supplies mid-day meals with service motive. The Trust

is supplying food to 19,070 school children in 144 schools of Anaparthi, Rayavaram and Biccavole mandals. The particulars relating to the MDMS of Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust are shown in tables 9 to 13.

The main objective of the MDMS is to increase the enrollment of students. But there is no improvement in the student enrollment in the schools covered by the Trust. The strength of the students from the year 2008 to till date is more or less around 19,000. Thus, the Scheme has no impact on the students enrollment. But, it has prevented not to decline in enrollment.

Rice is supplied by Food Corporation of India through Fair Price Shop Dealer. Quality rice is not supplied. There are stones, muds, insects, seeds in the rice. Rice is processed by workers. Swarna variety rice is good. Other varieties are not good. The boiled rice is starch, and not liked by students. The school children suffer from stomach pain.

The Trust purchases vegetables and other ingredients from the local market. The vegetables are curry leaves, brinjal, potato, cabbage, ladiesfinger, bottle-gourd etc.

The quantity of rice boiled is 1,300 kgs per day. The rice is boiled through steam. 10 LPG cylinders are used per day. The cost of a cylinder is Rs. 1,200. It is purchased at market price. Earlier, LPG cylinder is supplied at subsidized price of Rs. 400.

Honorarium is paid to each worker at the rate of Rs. 175 per day. Thus, a worker gets Rs. 5,250 per month. But, the government pays honorarium of Rs. 1,000 per cook-cum-helper. The difference amount is adjusted by the Trust.

The food is delivered by route vehicles. There are 15 rented vehicles for 15 routes. The rent is Rs. 600 for a vehicle per day excluding diesel cost. The total rent paid to 15 vehicles is Rs. 9,000 per day and monthly rent is Rs.2,70,000. The vehicles are loaded with meals vessels between 9.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. and delivered between 11.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon in the respective schools. The empty vessels are collected on the return on the same day. The strength of students of each school is collected from the headmasters the day before the meals preparation. The school headmasters will submit the bills of honorarium of cook-cum-workers and conversion cost to the Mandal Education Officer concerned. The amount will be then credited to the Trust Bank Account, State Bank of India, Anaparthi.

Sri S.Nagi Reddy, the Manager, Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust, stressed that the honorarium of cook-cum-worker may be enhanced to Rs. 3,000 per month from Rs.1,000. The conversion cost per student is also enhanced according to the market prices. Cost of an egg is Rs. 4.50. The Trust is serving one egg instead of two eggs in a week due to increase in price of vegetables and eggs. He also suggested supply of eggs by the government to the MDMS like Anganwadi Centres (ICDS).

Other activities of the Trust

1. Games and sports are conducted for 144 schools students in Trust Auditorium at Polamuru in Anaparthi Mandal of East Godavari district. The winners are awarded prizes.

2. 'Godavari Harathi' is performed at Pushkar Ghat, Rajahmundry on every full moon day.

3. Dattatreya Swamy Temple is maintained by the Trust.

4. The Trust has a Kalyana Mandapam for marriages and other functions to the public.

5. In South Africa, the Trust has land of one lakh acres. The land is used for agriculture purpose. Rice and palmolin oil crops are grown. The income generated in agriculture is used for maintenance of hospitals in South Africa.

6. The Trust has a proposals to start Mid-day Meal Scheme in South Africa.

Conclusion

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation and Sri Buddhavarapu Charitable Trust, are serving the mid-day meal to the school children on service motive. Though the Government supplies less quality rice, nominal payment of conversion cost for curries and meager honorarium of Rs. 1000/- per month to a cook-cum-helper, these organizations are supplying nutritious food. Once the food is ready, it is tasted and observations for temperature, colour, appearance, flavour, consistency and taste are documented. In the process, the food is untouched by hand. This ensures maintenance of high standards of hygiene and sanitation. It has positive impact on the health and nutrition of school children. The NGOs are supplying the nutritious food to the school children with commitment, discipline and cleanliness. It is suggested that more number of schools may be handed over to the NGOs for better implementation of the MDMS in order to achieve its objectives.

Reference

Annamirtha, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation Annual Report 2012-13. □