

# **Impact of Mid-Day Meal Programme on Educational Level: A Case Study of Ballabhpur Village, Birbhum District, and West Bengal**

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**ABSTRACTS:** The mid-day meal scheme is the popular name for the school programmed in India. Its provide launch free off cost to school children's on all working days. The key objectives of the programme to protect the student from the class room hunger, increasing school enrolment and attendance, addressing malnutrition and social empowerment through provision of employment to women's. This paper attempt to analysis the levels of education in different family size wise, age group wise, and per capita income wise in the study areas. Literacy in the India is key for socio-economic progress, and the Indian literacy rate grew to 74.04% in 2011 from 12% at the end of British rule in 1947. Although this was a greater than sixfold improvement, the level is well below the world average literacy rate of 84%, and India currently has the largest illiterate population of any nation on earth. Despite government programs, India's literacy rate increased only "sluggishly" and a 1990 study estimated that it would take until 2060 for India to achieve universal literacy at then-current rate of progress. The 2011 census, however, indicated a 2001-2011 decadal literacy growth of 9.2%, which is the slower than the growth seen during the previous decade.

**KEY WORD:** Mid-day meal, Literacy, Per capita income

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Literacy and level of education are basic indicators of the level of development which achieved by a society .In world scenario Spread of literacy is generally associated with important of modern civilization such as modernization, urbanization, industrialization, communication and commerce. Literacy forms an important input in overall development of individuals enabling them to comprehend their social, political and cultural environment better and respond to it appropriately. Higher levels of education and literacy lead to a greater awareness of society and also contributes in improvement of economic and social attributes. It acts as a catalyst for social upliftment enhancing the returns on investment made in almost every aspect of development effort, be it population control, health, hygiene, environmental degradation control, employment of weaker sections of the society. Today the level of education is positively correlated with a beneficial programme mid-day meal. In India in madras state first time this programme is start in 1925, then in Kolkata 1928, also in nation level the Mid-day Meal Scheme was launched by the Government of India in 1995 and the Cooked Mid-Day-Meal Programme was started in West Bengal in 1100 schools of six districts from January, 2003. This programme is popularly known as a public welfare concept in India. The mid -day meal scheme is the popular name for the school programmed in India. Its provide launch free off cost to school children on all working days. The key objectives of the programme is to protect the student from the class room from hunger, increasing school enrollment and attendance, addressing malnutrition and social empowerment through provision of employment to women's. This paper attempt to find out the levels of education in different family size wise, age group wise, per capita income wise in the study areas and also shown how Mid-day meal program impact on educational

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levels. The success of this scheme is illustrated by the tremendous increase in the school participation and enrolment rates in Tamil Nadu ( Sengupta, 2012).

Implementation of mid-day meal programme is an incredible attempt of Govt. of India .To enhance literacy rate in rural area, was implemented with objectives of the programme to protect the student from the class room hunger, increasing school enrolment and attendance, addressing mal nutrition and social empowerment through provision of employment to women's. Literacy is essential for eradicating poverty and mental isolation, for cultivating peaceful and friendly international and for permitting the free play of demographic processes. Various studies have been conducted in India about mid-day meal scheme and students' achievement in schools (Dreze & Goyal, 2003; Dreze & Kingdon, 2001; Khera, 2002; Mondal et al, 2007 etc.). Most of the studies revealed that there exist a positive relationship between mid-day meal program and enrolment and attendance of students in schools including education and health outcomes of students.

## II. OBJECTIVES

Following objectives have been used for the research work are- To examine the impact of mid-day meal programme on education level, to evaluate educational condition of the study area, try to find out the problems of education and school dropouts in different level of the study area, to analyses the demographic profile and Educational status.

## III. DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The data have been collected based on both secondary and primary for the study area. Secondary data have been collected from published and other published organization. The collected primary data have been analyzed into simple percentage, firstly which is categorized into family member based on size of house hold. The primary data collected through the direct field investigation. The field investigation has been conducted with a well designed questioner. A direct interview has been conducted with a person from each sampled household of the Village. Sampled households were selected on the basis of random sampling technique. A total of 50 households have been selected from 129 households on the basis of sampling techniques.

The present work has been accomplished with both quantitative as well as qualitative technique. Among the quantitative techniques, both simple and standard statistical techniques have been applied to gather the facts. Simple percentage technique has been used to analyze the socio-cultural and economic status of the households of the study area.

**Table 1 Demographic profile of the study area, 2013**

Name of the Village	Total Population	Total Male	Total Female	Total Household	Sample Household	Sample Population
Ballabhpur Village	607	309	298	129	50	216

Source: Census of India 2011, Ballabhpur Gram Panchayat, West Bengal

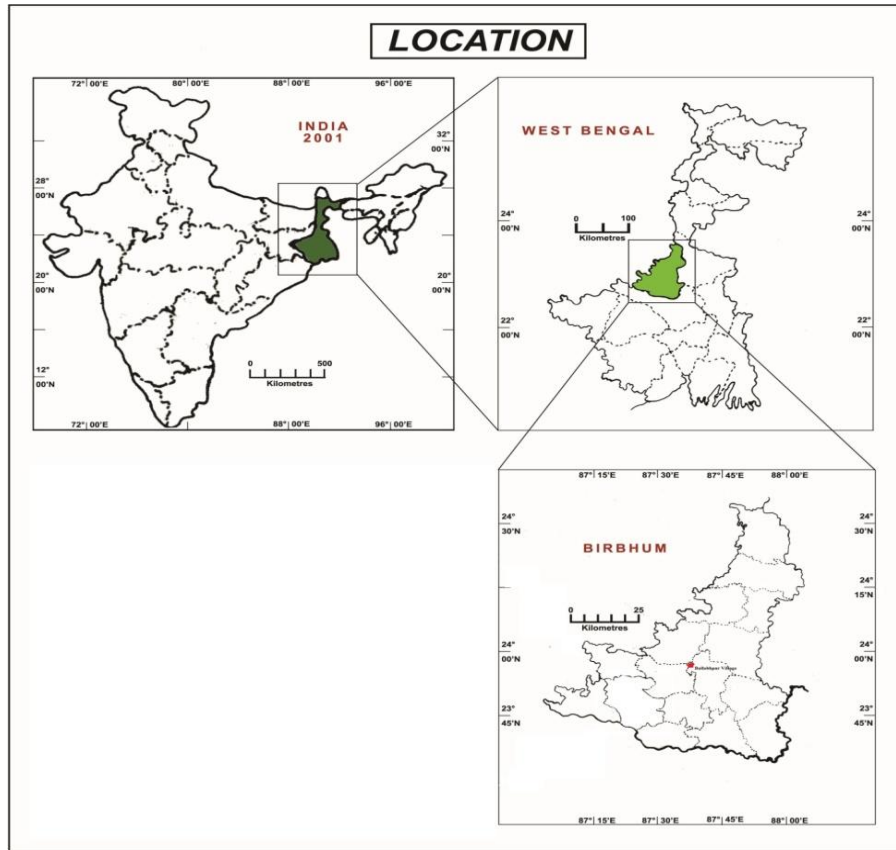
## IV. STUDY AREA

The village Ballabhpur village is located to the North and North West of Santiniketan about 3.5 km. away from Vishwa Bharati. The geographical location of this village is confined within the latitudes of 23° 41' 54" N and 26° 42' 26" N and longitudes of 87° 40' 07" E and 87° 40' 37" E in the police-station and subdivision of Bolpur, Dist- Birbhum, W.B. This included in the topographical map of survey of India No. 73M/10 and J. L. No. of this mouza is 64.

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Source: 2001

## V. POPULATION STRUCTURE

Table: 2 Distribution of population among the sampled households, Ballabhpur Village, 2013

Size of household (No. of family members)	Population Distribution			General population		% of SC Population		% of ST Population	
	Persons	% of male	% of female	% of male	% of female	% of male	% of female	% of male	% of female
< 3	18	60.00	40.00	15.00	10.00	40.00	35.00	00	00
4 - 5	48	66.66	33.33	26.08	39.13	20.09	14.70	00	00
6 - 7	80	70.00	30.00	13.04	16.73	20.50	16.07	13.04	10.62
> 8	60	64.00	36.00	00	00	42.00	40.00	10.00	8.00

Source: Field survey, December, 2013

The table 2 reveals that the distribution of population of Ballabhpur Village. It has been counted that 40 percent male and 35 percent female population which belongs to Scheduled Caste category come under the group of less than 3 household sizes. There is no percentage of Scheduled Tribe population comes under the category of less than 3 and 4-5 family size. On the other hand highest percentage Scheduled Tribe population (13.04 percent male and 10.62 percent female) belong to 5-6 category of families. Highest percentage of General population (26.08 percent male and 39.13 percent female) comes under the group of 4-5 family size.

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By the close observation of this table 2, it have been conclude that most of the families belongs to the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe category in that area.

**Table: 3 Age-group wise distribution of population among the sampled households, Ballabhpur Village, 2013**

Size of Households (No. of family members)	Pop. With <6 Years		Pop. With 6-18 Years		Pop. With 18-40 Years		Pop. With 40-60 Years		Pop. With >60 Years	
	% of Male	% of Female	% of Male	% of Female	% of Male	% of Female	% of Male	% of Female	% of Male	% of Female
< 3	00	00	00	00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	00	00
4 - 5	0	00	00	33.33	41.66	33.33	41.66	33.33	8.33	00
6 - 7	9.52	5.26	23.80	21.05	38.09	36.84	28.57	36.84	00	5.26
> 8	23.01	00	15.38	25.00	38.46	41.66	7.69	25.00	15.38	00

Source: Field survey, December, 2013

Table 3 focused on the age-group wise distribution of population of sampled household. The highest percentage of population (50 percent male and 50 percent female) belong to 18-40 and 40-60 age group which come under the category of less than 3 household size and lowest percentage of population which belongs to less than 6, 16-18 and more than 60 age group. On the other hand highest percentage of population (33.33 percent) belongs to 6-18 age groups and comes under the 4-5 household size. Another 23.01 percentage of population which has been belongs to less than 6 age groups come under the categories of more than 8 size of household. Highest percentage of population (15.38 percent) which has been belongs to more than 60 age groups and comes under the category of more than 5 size of household.

By the close observation of this table 3 it have been conclude that the area is having major percentage of male and female populations belongs to 18-40 and 40-60 years of age group.

### VI. EDUCATION CONDITION

**Table 4 Educational status among the sampled household, Ballabhpur Village, 2013**

Size of household (No. of family members)		< 3	4 - 5	6 - 7	> 8
Literacy rate	Male	50	52.94	60.72	52.63
	Female	50	47.05	39.28	47.36
Percentage of population up to primary level	Male	0	100	60	28.57
	Female	100	100	40	71.42
Percentage of population up to class 8 <sup>th</sup> level	Male	66.66	57.14	60	57.14
	Female	33.33	42.85	40	42.85
Percentage of population up to class 10 <sup>th</sup> level	Male	0	25	45.14	100
	Female	0	75	42.85	0
Percentage of population up to class 12 <sup>th</sup> level	Male	0	66.66	33.33	100
	Female	0	33.33	66.66	100
Percentage of population up to class graduation level	Male	0	100	0	0
	Female	0	0	0	0
Percentage of population up to class M.A./M.Sc level	Male	0	100	0	0
	Female	0	0	0	0

Source: Field survey, December, 2013

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The table 6 reveals that the education status of Ballabhpur Village. Average literacy rate of this village is less than 55 percent; male percentage is 54.02 and female 45.92 percent. The family has 4-5 persons they have higher educated and they carry their qualification up to M.A. / M.Sc. level. The family having four to five of them have high percentage in primary stage but in higher level educated percentage is very low. In this category 60.72 percent male and 39.28 percent female are literate. Another 52.63 percent male and 46.36 percent female literate people come under the category of more than five family members. By the close observation it has been identified that most of the male persons are preferred to give education by their parents than the female. The population has rarely got the opportunity to go to school or college. After the analysis it can be evaluated that the education condition of Ballabhpur Village is very poor. Peoples are unable to bear as their education purpose due to poor economic condition.

### VII. ECONOMIC CONDITION

**Table: 5 Income distributions among the sampled households, Ballabhpur Village, 2012**

Size of Household (No. of family members)	Average per-capita income (Rs.)	Percentage of Households with per capita monthly income (Rs.)						
		< 250	250-500	500-900	900-1500	1500-2500	2500-5000	>5000
< 3	1050	0	0	50	50	0	0	0
4 - 5	1650	0	0	0	50	25	25	0
6 - 7	860	0	0	50	20	30	0	0
> 8	950	0	0	20	40	20	00	0

*Source: Field survey, December, 2013*

The income level is depicted by the table 5 which shows that highest per capita income has Rs. 1650 and lowest per capita income is Rs. 860 which comes under the category of 4-5 and 6-7 size of household. More than 50 percent of households as their per capita income have Rs 500-900 under the category of 6-7 and their average per capita income is Rs. 860. Another 50 percent household belongs to under the category of 4-5 and their average per capita income is Rs. 1650. Average per capita income Rs. 1050, which have come under the group of less than 3 family members of household. In category which comes under group of more than 5 members in a family have average per capita income is Rs. 860. Apart from the analysis it has been identified that economic condition of Ballabhpur Village is very poor due to lack of source and employment facilities.

### VIII. RESPONDENTS OBSERVATION

**Table 6 Respondents Observation for Mid-day Meal Programme among Sampled House Hold, Ballabhpur Village, 2013**

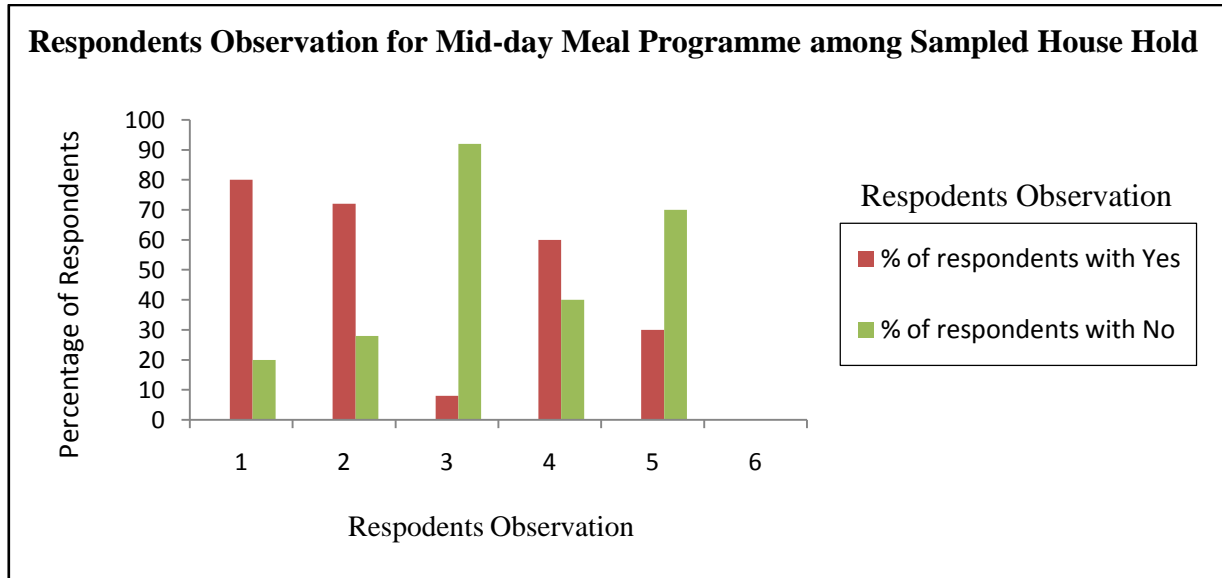
Respondents Observation	Percentage of Respondents	
	Yes	No
Mid-day meal programme increasing literacy level	80	20
Mid-day meal programme increase children school attendance	72	28
Believe in parents responsible for less school attendance	8	92
Constraints of mass education	60	40
Ways of overcoming	30	70

*Source: Field survey, December, 2013*

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*Fig. 1*

Table 6 and figure reveals that the respondent’s observations for Mid-day Meal programme of selected study area. It has been identify that 80 percent respondents view is positive about Mid-day Meal programme. According to their view is that Mid-day meal programme increasing literacy level, on the other hand only 20 percent respondents’ view is negative about Mid-day Meal programme and according to their observation is no effect of Mid-day Meal programme on primary education system. Another 72 percent respondent’s observations about Mid-day meal programme increase children school attendance is positive but on the other hand only 28 percent respondents does not believed that the Mid-day meal programme increase children school attendance. It has been also identify that the 60 percent respondents believed on constraints of mass education and the other hand 40 percent respondents does not believed on constraints of mass education. About ways of overcoming 30 percent respondents view is positive on the other hand 70 percent negative respondents identified. So it has been conclude that Mid-day Meal programme is use full tools for the increase of school attendance children.

**Table 7 Mothers Education Condition of Ballabhpur Village, 2013**

Size of household (No. of family members)	Percentage of household With Mothers Education						
	Up to primary level	Up to 8 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to 10 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to 12 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to graduation level	Up to M.A./M.Sc.	More than M.A./M.S c. level
< 3	0	11	20	0	0	0	0
4 - 5	100	89	60	40	0	0	0
6 - 7	0	0	0	60	0	0	0
> 8	0	0	20	0	0	0	0

*Source: Field survey, December, 2013*

Table 7 depicts that the mother education condition of the selected study area, this is to identify that the only 20 percent mother’s education qualification is up to class 10<sup>th</sup> level which come under the group of less than 3 family members on the other hand 100 percent up to primary level which come under the group of 4 – 5 family members. It has been also identify that 89 percent education qualification is up to class 8<sup>th</sup> level which come under the group of 4 –



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5 family member on the other hand 40 percent up to class 12<sup>th</sup> level which also come under the same group. Another 60 percent education level up to 12<sup>th</sup> which come under the group of 6 – 7 family members on the other hand only 20 percent come under the group of more than 8 family members and their education level is up to 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Table 8 Fathers Education Condition of Ballabhpur Village, 2013**

Size of household (No. of family member)	Percentage of household With Fathers Education						
	Up to primary level	Up to 8 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to 10 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to 12 <sup>th</sup> level	Up to graduation level	Up to M.A./M.Sc.	More than M.A./M.Sc. c. level
< 3	25	29	0	0	0	0	0
4 - 5	50	57	100	100	100	33	0
6 - 7	25	14	0	0	0	33	0
> 8	0	0	0	0	0	34	0

Source: Field survey, December, 2013

Table 8 depicts that the father education condition of the Ballabhpur Village, this is to identify that the only 25 percent father's education qualification is up to primary level which come under the group of less than 3 family members on the other hand 29 percent up to class 8<sup>th</sup> level which come under the same group. It has been also identify that 100 percent education qualification is up to class graduation level which come under the group of 4 – 5 family member on the other hand only 33 percent up to class M.A. / M.Sc. level which also come under the same group. Another 33 percent father's education level is up to M.A. / M.Sc. which come under the group of 6 – 7 family members on the other hand 34 percent come under the group of more than 8 family members and their education level is up to same level.

### IX. CONCLUSION

After go through the study it has been concluded that the Mi-day Meal programme helped to increase the school attendance children in primary level. So, it may be mention that the quantity of the school attendance children in primary level is increases but quality of the students falling down due to lack of management of this concerned programme. For, suitable utilization this programme Government should be makes proper rules and regulation, and also all the parents to be concerned about this programme and teacher must be maintain the above condition properly for sustainable education development.

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