

"EDUCATIONAL AND NUTRITION IMPACT OF MID-DAY MEAL PROGRAMME ON CHILDREN OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL IN GANDHINAGAR DISTRICT"

Dissertation for the Degree of Master of Science

Foods and Nutrition

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Abstract: Tribal populations are socio-economically disadvantaged compared to other population groups. They have different health problems owing to the variability in their geographical, socio-economic development and cultural characteristics. At the request of the project officer, a cross sectional survey was carried out to assess the diet and nutritional status of tribal population in Mid-day meal scheme is one of the important policies and the main purpose of it is to lower the cost of schooling and also to improve the nutritional level of children. School going children are vulnerable to malnutrition and nutritional deficiencies having a negative effect on the growth and development of children. Mid-day meal scheme is a school meal programme of the Government of India, designed to improve the nutritional status of school-age children. Malnourished children will not attain optimum potential for growth and development and this affects their physical capacity to work and physiological changes in the later phase of life. The food that we eat affects the nutritional status; hence the study was evaluated to find the nutritional status of the mid-day meal program in school going children.

Key words : socio-economically, health problem, Tribal populations