

**SCHOOL MID-DAY MEAL PROGRAMME
2006**

SCHOOL HEALTH & NUTRITION UNIT
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MID-DAY MEAL PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN-2006

As stated in the manifesto of his Excellency President Mahinda Rajapakshe, the mid day meal programme was launched on 9th January 2006, with a view to support the enhancement of educational achievements of children in economically marginalized families in difficult areas.

Vision

Healthy and active younger generation.

Mission

Enabling children to get maximum benefits from the learning environment by increasing their activeness through providing for the required nutrition level appropriate to the age.

Objectives

To upgrade the nutrition level of school children in economically marginalized families.

To ensure active participation in education.

To minimize the existing high rate of malnourishment among school children.

To increase the attendance rate of school children in difficult areas.

To provide guidance to obtain a balance diet.

To promote good practices in food consumption.

To promote good health practices.

Situational analysis

A survey carried out in 2005 by Ministry of Health, revealed that there 21% of school children are malnourished. Further more 30% of students come to school with-out having their breakfast malnourishment highly prevalent in small schools in difficult areas.

Percentage of malnourishment among school children.

Age(y)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Male	17.3	17.4	19	19.3	18.2	59	56.2	58.7	66.5	52.7	15
Female	15.1	13.3	17.9	13.9	13.8	51.7	39.4	31.8	26.4	30.7	19.8

Target group

School children in difficult areas.

Children in economically marginalized families.

Students in schools, where over 30 percent of the children are malnourished.

Mid Day Meal Programme -2006								
Province	No of Schools	No of Students					Spe.Education & Literacy Centers	Total
		Grade 1 only	Grade 1 & 2 only	Grade 1&5 only	All Students			
Sabaragamuwa	845	7087	8579		18673		34339	
Uwa	713	2335		22104	23533	15	47987	
Western	740	12667	11377		13925	12	37981	
North Western	807	2950	12431		37459		52840	
Southern	803	2100		42703	14832		59635	
North Central	591	2495	9910		59724		72129	
North East	683	6345	18746		24406		49497	
Central	1071	3686	20375		26905		50966	
Total	6253	39665	81418	64807	219457	27	405374	

Expected outcomes

- Minimizing the nutrition related problems.
- Active participation in classroom process.
- Increase the daily attendance of students.
- Increase in demand for schooling. (Increasing the student population)
- Community participation.
- Practicing of good food habits.
- Community awareness on food and nutrition.
- Good hygienic practices.