



BHS HIGHER EDUCATION SOCIETY

VIJAYA COLLEGE

R V ROAD, BASAVANAGUDI, BANGALORE – 560 004

**(ACCREDITED BY NAAC WITH 'B' GRADE &
RECOGNIZED BY UGC AS CPE)**

Ph : 080 – 26933221

EMAIL ID :

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MID DAY MEALS SCHEME IN THE COLLEGE

Almost a decade ago, attendance in the life science section was poor in case of certain students. During student counselling it came to light that the cause was the economic constraints of the family. These students used to take up jobs in supermarkets and such other retail shops to earn livelihood and get distracted from studies. Many of these Students were first generation learners with a fire in their belly and a zeal to pursue studies. Also, certain students, particularly girls, used to faint in the classes due to insufficient nutrition. To plug this problem, the teachers of the college initiated the mid – day meal scheme for the benefit of such students. Dr. G M Nijaguna, the then Vice – Principal, launched the Mid-day meals scheme in the college bearing the expenditure on his own for a few students. This practice of hosting mid-day meals continued later to encourage these set of students to continue their studies. The practice is prevalent in the system for more than a decade by now. Thus, Dr. G M Nijaguna became a champion of mid-day meals in the college.

The objective of the Mid – Day meals in the college was, thus, to ensure that the students are provided nutritional support while enhancing retention and fostering first generation learners to acquire atleast a first degree.

Later, in September – 2010, Dr. M R Ramesh, HOD of Statistics, initiated the concept of Mid – Day meals scheme on a standard footing by requesting teachers to contribute voluntarily for the benefit of few needy students so that the dropout rate of students for want of lunch in the afternoon times could be plugged. A Mid – Day Meals Scheme committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Dr. N Sathyananda. Also, a bank account was opened in Syndicate Bank on 8th October 2010 for this purpose. Many teachers volunteered and contributed for the well-being of students and encouraged them to pursue their studies. In the following years, a few of the science students were identified and offered mid-day meal



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scheme at the Sanman Hotel in the initial days where the expenditure was met by a few teaching staff. Later, Mr. Sridhar, the Proprietor of Sanman Hotel started offering free meals to about 20 needy students referred by the college. As a result, a greater number of students were reached out. This programme went on for some years with the support of only few teaching staff. The programme continued till 2018-19 along with the support of Mr. Sridhar, Proprietor, Sanman Hotel .

Several deliberations were held during the academic year 2018 – 19 regarding the Mid – Day meals to be extended to atleast about 60 students. Finances did not permit for reaching out to a strength of 60 students during 2018 – 19 academic year. Later, deliberations were held with Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni regarding the mid – day meals to reach out to atleast 60 students and whether any support could be sought from them. Mr. Rajashekhar, President of Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni, contacted the ISKCON Akshaya Patra Foundation personnel and suggested that the Mid – Day meals through Akshaya Patra of ISKCON could be started in Vijaya College. Consultations with the ISKCON Akshaya Patra foundation enabled the initiation of the scheme for a student strength of 100. The BHS HES Management was also informed of the scheme. BHS HES extended all its support and has also enabled a storage space and wash area with several tap outlets which were constructed at its cost. The Honourable President Sri. G V Viswanath has been suggesting to ensure that the students are made more comfortable while having their lunch by providing them a seating space in the rear end. Efforts are constantly underway to realize his suggestion to provide seats to all the students during their lunch time.

Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni(VVA) contributed Rs.3.50 Lakhs being the fund to be paid to ISKCON for the mid – day meals in the college. Without the philanthropic contribution of the VVA, this project of Mid – Day meals would have been far from reality. The college and the students are highly indebted to the VVA in this regard.



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Efforts and contributions of Mr. Rajashekhar to launch this mid – day meals scheme deserves a special mention here and is highly appreciated.

Physical Science Alumni have contributed Rs.25,000=00 towards the mid – day meals scheme of the college.

Chandanmall, an alumnus has sponsored about 140 steel plates to serve the food to students. Parameshwar, an alumni and General Secretary of Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni has been a constant source of inspiration in furthering the mid – day meals scheme in the college. Mr. Narendra, an alumnus of Physical Science, has contributed Student ID cards for the mid – day meals student beneficiaries.

Storage containers were donated by Sri. Raghavendra, Zoology Laboratory and Sri. Muddukrishna, Computer Science Laboratory of the college.

Special mention is due to **Prof. Shantha Raj, Vice – Principal of Vijaya Evening College** who was instrumental in getting steel storage containers for the mid – day meal scheme.

Presently, about 105 students are the beneficiaries of this Mid – Day meals scheme run in collaboration with Vijaya Vaanijya Alumni and ISKCON Akshaya Patra Foundation. Several teachers have voluntarily contributed to the mid – day meals scheme and our thanks are due to them.





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The biggest question before us is the sustainability of the program and the availability of funds. Through this medium, we make an appeal to all to contribute liberally for the cause of education and adequate nutrition to the deserving student community. Contributions may be made to the following account held with the Syndicate Bank, Vijaya College Campus. **These contributions are exempted from Income Tax under section 80(G).**

Name of the Bank : Canara Bank, Vijaya College Campus

Name of the account : M/S VIJAYA COLLEGE MID – DAY MEAL SCHEME

SB A/C No. : 04752010007811

IFSC : CNRB0010475

Alternatively, cheques may also be drawn in favour of the above account.

Prof. D P Ravindra, Associate Professor of Commerce, is the Coordinator for the Mid – day meal scheme at present. He is ably supported by many teachers. Efforts of Prof. K S Shailaja, Dr. V Anuradha, and Dr. Gopalakrishna needs special mention and appreciation.



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The Mid -Day Meal committee thanks the staff and students of the college for their wholehearted cooperation in ensuring that the scheme works effectively and smoothly.

Prof. D P Ravindra
Coordinator, Mid – Day Meal Scheme