A STUDY ON BASIC NEEDS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN VISAKHAPATNAM

DR. P.JAYALAKSHMI

READER & HEAD, ECONOMICS,
ST.JOSEPH’S COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (A),
VISAKHAPATNAM.

ABSTRACT
The UNO’s Millennium Development Goals included the target to reduce by half the number of people without sanitation access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by the Year 2015. Water and Sanitation are among the priorities of the World. Diseases related to inadequate water sanitation and hygiene is a huge burden in developing countries. Sanitation is vital for human health and it is one of the important indicators that reflect the quality of life of the people. It is a basic need that affects every one’s life and it is a yardstick of socio-cultural and economic development of a nation. School sanitation and hygiene refers to the combination of hardware and software components that are necessary to produce a healthy school environment and to develop or support safe hygiene behaviors. The hardware components include drinking water, hand washing and sanitary facilities in and around the school compound. The software components are the activities that promote conditions at school and practices of school staff and children that help to prevent water and sanitation-related diseases and worm infestations (UNICEF 1998). School sanitation and hygiene education is not new in India. In the late 1950’s through 1960’s it was, for example, one of the tasks assigned to the multipurpose works in the National Rural Development program. This paper is going to study the impact of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities on improving child health outcomes such as absenteeism, infections, knowledge, attitudes and practices. This paper is based on primary data collected from the teachers and students in primary and secondary schools located in Visakhapatnam. All these schools were randomly sample. Data were collected through interview schedule and questionnaires in an unbiased manner.

KEY WORDS: UNO’s, economic development.

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