

F-07 : INFLUENCE OF PROVISION OF SCHOOL BOOKS FREE OF CHARGE AND PROVISION OF MEALS ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN RURAL SECTOR SCHOOLS

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School attendance is affected by various factors. Low income level of parents is one of the factors. Provision of school books free of charge and provision of lunch might overcome some of the problems faced by school children of this income group.

In order to find out the affect of these two factors on school attendance, a survey was carried out for schools in rural areas in Gampaha/Pasyala educational district. The study covered the period 1974-1990.

The study has shown that the rate of school attendance of boys were lower than that of girls. Both of the above factors were observed to have a positive influence on school attendance.