

MID-DAY MEAL KITCHEN

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – FEBRUARY 2012

Partner:	The Akshaya Patra Foundation (TAPF)
Location:	Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, Orissa, India
Target Group:	School children aged 6 - 16 years in government primary, middle & secondary schools
Number of Beneficiaries:	100,000 Students
Grant Period:	1 April 2011 – 31 March 2014
Grant Amount:	£1,414,623 (3 years)



Objectives

- To construct a centralised and fully mechanised kitchen in Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
- To deliver mid-day meals to 100,000 children in government schools in the districts of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, Orissa

Description

The project has two phases.

In Phase 1 (from April 2011 to March 2012), the kitchen will be built and vessels and vehicles will be procured.

In Phase 2 (from April 2012 to March 2014), the delivery of the mid-day meal programme will be implemented in both districts. As well as the meals, additional nutritional supplements and health check-ups will be provided for the children.

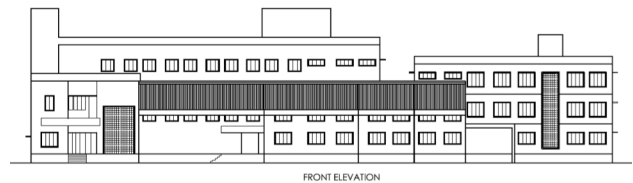
By providing a free, nutritious and cooked mid-day meal, TAPF aims to encourage parents to send their children to school, thereby improving classroom enrolment, retention and participation. It also prevents hunger and malnutrition, which impede a child's ability to concentrate and learn.

TAPF also receives funding from the government and other donors.

Progress in 2011

In June, the Government of Orissa allotted TAPF two acres of land. A temporary boundary wall was erected and site bore-wells dug.

In July, the architectural drawings and structural designs were completed.



From August to September, the State of Orissa experienced heavy rains and flooding. The building site's soil became so inundated with water that construction work had to be delayed.

In October, TAPF evaluated a series of tenders for the main construction work.

In November, the construction contract was awarded.

The kitchen will take six months to build and is to be operational from May 2012.

Piling work has commenced at the construction site of the Mid-Day Meal Kitchen in Bhubaneswar and electricity will be connected in February.