



## St. Mary's School Hunger Project Class VIII (19th of September)

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Our hunger project was scheduled for a Saturday, which did dampen our spirits because we thought that the day could have been better spent in doing a much more productive work, sleeping. Thank god for our class teacher for making a drowsy Saturday a fun day indeed. In our undying spirit of not listening to our teachers properly we assembled at the wrong spot on a rainy Saturday morning. We got together in our class with no sign of our teacher around and we hoped sincerely that the hunger project would get postponed. Alas! we were in for a surprise when sir suddenly turned up and scolded us in his loud voice to go to the kitchen and start our chores.



We started by washing eight kilos of rice and began the cooking process. The school housekeeper had done the tedious work of preparing the 'choley'. We were left with the task of making sure that the rice was cooked just right. Everyone took turns to stir up the vessel and drained the rice out. While we were at it, Sunny arranged for two large dust-bins, reminding us the importance of cleanliness.

After spending almost an hour in the kitchen, we headed out in a team of 16 to the battle field. On the bus, Adityan sir told us that nearly 30% of India is still under poverty line. Chief cause of hunger is poverty and lack of education about nutrition.

We first fed scores of children at the Africa Avenue Marg red light on the ring road. It was a glorious sight to see so many kids who otherwise begged on the roads getting fed so nicely. At the next red light the parents of the little kids refused to accept our offerings for reason unknown to us still.



But that was countered by the immense response at Dharmsala on the ring road. First the crowd just gathered around our bus haphazardly. Many boys from our class got off the bus along with Adityan Sir to urge them to form a proper line, which took a lot of convincing. We finally started feeding them all. As they went away with the offering, Tushar Kumar, Shaan Goswami and Harshit Narang advised them all to not throw it in the open but only in dustbins.



We saw the real face of hunger in the scores of kids who sprang up in excitement when they saw our bus. It made us think how we take so many things for granted. Our hunger project was also not just about feeding food but also educating the people on cleanliness. I guess it was a Saturday very well spent.

Our class did well in my opinion. Tushar Kumar was seen picking up plates which had been carelessly thrown away on the road by the people to throw them in the dustbins. He did this without anyone asking him. Change starts with us.