

Spirit of Indian Constitution and Right to Food

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ABSTRACT:

The right to food is a fundamental human right recognized by the United Nations. It is the right of every person to have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious, and culturally acceptable food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The importance of the right to food cannot be overstated. Access to food is essential for the survival and well-being of individuals and communities. Without adequate access to food, people suffer from malnutrition, hunger, and related health problems. The right to food is also closely linked to other human rights, including the right to life, the right to health, and the right to work. The Right to Food is a Fundamental Right recognized under the Indian Constitution, specifically under Article 21, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty. The right to food has also been interpreted as a component of the right to live with dignity, which is an integral part of Article 21. In addition, the Indian government has implemented various policies and programs to ensure food security for all citizens, including the National Food Security Act, which aims to provide subsidized food grains to two-thirds of the population, and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, which provides free meals to schoolchildren. However, despite the various laws and policies in place, India still faces significant challenges in ensuring that its citizens have access to adequate and nutritious food, particularly in rural areas and among marginalized communities.

Keywords: Indian Constitution, Rights, Food

INTRODUCTION

The right to food is a human right that recognizes that every person has the right to access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and preferences, without discrimination or barriers. It is a fundamental right that is recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights², and other international human rights treaties.³

¹ Right to Adequate Food, available at,

<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf>, last visited on 11/4/23

² Ibid 1

³ The human right treaty that specifically addresses the right to food is the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1966 and came into force in 1976. Article 11 of the ICESCR recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing, and housing, and the continuous improvement of living conditions. It

The right to food includes the right to physical and economic access to food, the right to adequate nutrition and the right to participate in the decisions that affect the food system. It also involves ensuring that food is available, affordable, accessible, culturally acceptable, and of good quality.⁴ The Government is duty bound as a good administrator to fulfil the legitimate expectation of the people. Therefore every instance of hunger and malnutrition shows failure on the part of the Government to meet up to the legitimate expectation of the people and thus all such instances (if at all) are the violation of this right guaranteed under the Constitution of India.⁵

This duty of the Government also includes ensuring, that food policies⁶, laws⁷ and programs are in place to promote food security and nutrition, addressing inequalities and discrimination that affect access to food, and promoting sustainable food systems that protect the environment and support the livelihoods of small-scale farmers and producers. The right to adequate food is essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals⁸, particularly the

further recognizes the fundamental right of every individual to be free from hunger and malnutrition. The ICESCR places obligations on states to ensure the availability, accessibility, and adequacy of food for all individuals within their jurisdiction, including those who are marginalized or vulnerable. States are also required to take measures to improve access to food, to ensure that food is of adequate nutritional value, and to promote education and awareness of nutrition. Additionally, the ICESCR requires states to take into account the specific needs of certain groups, such as women, children, and rural communities, in their efforts to ensure the right to food. States are also required to cooperate with one another to ensure the realization of the right to food. Overall, the ICESCR provides a framework for states to work towards ensuring the right to food for all individuals, with a focus on ensuring that everyone has access to adequate, nutritious food without discrimination.

⁴ Sushree Surekha Choudhry, Right to Food, available at, <https://blog.ipleaders.in/right-to-food/>, last visited on 11/4/23

⁵ Ritika Gupta, Right to food under Indian Constitution and present scenario, available at, <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-2384-right-to-food-under-indian-constitution-and-its-present-scenario.html>, last visited on 12/4/23

⁶ The National Food Security Act 2013, marks a paradigm shift in the approach towards food security, moving from a welfare-based approach to a rights-based approach. It covers about 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population under Antyodaya Anna Yojana in order to meet the needs of the poorest of the poor where they are entitled to 35 kg of grain per household every month. Secondly, there is a program called Priority Household (PHH), where PHH households are entitled to receive 5 kg of grain per person per month. In addition, the law makes special provisions for children aged 6 months to 14 years, allowing them to receive free nutritious meals through an extensive network of child development service centers as the Anganwadi Center.

⁷ To ensure the right to food for all citizens of the country, the Indian Parliament in the year 2013 enacted a law known as the National Food Security Act, 2013 which is also known as the Right to Food Act. In fact, the law is intended to provide subsidized food grains to about more than two thirds of India's population. Food subsidies are the basis for the National Food Security Act 2013 to be implemented in India.

⁸ The right to food is a basic human right recognized by the United Nations. It means that every person has the right to access safe, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food that is sufficient to meet their dietary needs and preferences. The United Nations has also identified the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a framework for achieving sustainable development for all people and the planet. SDG 2 is specifically focused on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture. SDG 2 recognizes that access to nutritious and sustainable food is essential for eradicating poverty, promoting health and well-being, and achieving sustainable development. It also emphasizes the need for sustainable agriculture practices that ensure the long-term viability of food systems. Therefore, the right to food and the SDGs are closely linked, as achieving the SDGs will help ensure that everyone has the right to food and that food systems are sustainable and equitable. This requires the collaboration of governments, international organizations, civil

goal of eradicating hunger and malnutrition by 2030.⁹ It is also important for promoting social justice, human dignity, and the enjoyment of all other human rights. The right to adequate food means that every person should have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food to meet their dietary needs and preferences, without compromising their dignity, autonomy or other human rights. The right to adequate food is also recognized as a Fundamental Human Right at global level by the United Nations.¹⁰ It is enshrined in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care."

However, despite being recognized as a fundamental human right, millions of people around the world still suffer from hunger and malnutrition.¹¹ The number of people affected by hunger globally rose to as many as 828 million in 2021, an increase of about 46 million since 2020 and 150 million since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a United Nations report that provides fresh evidence that the world is moving further away from its goal of ending hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.¹²

ISSUES RELATED TO FOOD IN INDIA

India is a country with diverse cultures and cuisines. However, there are several issues related to food in India that need attention. Some of the major issues are:

1. **Malnutrition:** Despite India's rapid economic growth, malnutrition is a significant problem in the country. Many people, especially in rural areas, do not have access to a balanced diet, leading to malnutrition and other health problems.
2. **Food safety:** Food safety is a major concern in India, with many incidents of food contamination and adulteration reported each year. Poor food safety practices can lead to foodborne illnesses and diseases. Throughout the world, food borne diseases represent a considerable public health burden and challenge. In the South-East Asia Region only, nearly 150 million people fell ill with food borne diseases in 2010, which led to 175 000 deaths. Of these, 40% of food borne diseases burden was among children under 5 years. Approximately 50% of malnutrition is caused not by a lack of

society, and the private sector to create policies, programs, and practices that promote food security, nutrition, and sustainability for all.

⁹ Sustainable Development Goals, available at, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/#:~:text=Sustainable%20Development%20Goal%202%20is,million%20more%20than%20in%202019.,last%20visited,on,10/3/24>

¹⁰ United nations Human Right, available at, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf>, last visited on 11/2/23

¹¹ According to United Nations, in India, there are nearly 195 million undernourished people, which is a quarter of the world's hunger burden. Roughly 43% of children in India are chronically undernourished

¹² See Food and Agricultural Organisation, available at, <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/un-report-global-hunger-SOFI-2022-FAO/en>, last visited on 28/3/23

food or poor diet, but due to poor water and sanitation facilities, and unhygienic practices leading to life-threatening disease and infections such as diarrhea.¹³

3. Food waste: India is one of the largest producers of food in the world, but it also has a significant food waste problem. A significant amount of food is wasted every year due to poor storage and transportation infrastructure, as well as cultural practices that result in excessive cooking and serving. According to the Food Waste Index Report 2021 published by the United Nations Environment Programme, 50 kg of food is thrown away per person every year in Indian homes.¹⁴
4. Food insecurity: Despite being a major food producer, many people in India still suffer from food insecurity, which means they lack regular access to sufficient quantities of food. This is a significant problem, especially for marginalized communities and those living in poverty. India is ranked 107th out of 121 nations in the Global Hunger Index 2022 (down from the index of 101 in 2021). India has a level of hunger that is serious with a score of 29.1. On the Global Hunger Index 2021, India is ranked 101 out of 116 nations, indicating “serious” hunger levels. The score had a value of 27.5.¹⁵
5. Sustainable agriculture: India is heavily dependent on agriculture, but unsustainable farming practices, including excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers, are leading to soil degradation, water pollution, and other environmental problems.
6. Genetically modified crops: There is ongoing debate and controversy in India over the use of genetically modified crops in agriculture. Supporters argue that GMOs can increase crop yields and improve food security, while opponents are concerned about potential health and environmental risks.
7. Non-availability of adequate food to large masses in India: The issue of inadequate food availability for the poor in India is a complex and multifaceted problem that has persisted for decades. Despite various efforts by the government and NGOs to address this issue, a significant portion of the Indian population continues to face food insecurity. There are several factors that contribute to this problem, that includes poverty¹⁶, unequal distribution of resources¹⁷, lack of access to markets, climate change¹⁸, lack of government policies etc.

¹³ See World Health Organization-Food Safety, available at, <https://www.who.int/india/health-topics/food-safety#:~:text=Of%20these%2C%2040%25%20of%20food,and%20infections%20such%20as%20diarrhea.,> last visited on 13/3/23

¹⁴ Thomas Zacharias, India has a food waste problem, available at, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/food-waste-index-report-india-coronavirus-hunder-index-7261909/>, last visited on 11/3/23

¹⁵ Challenges of food insecurity in India, available at, <https://testbook.com/ias-preparation/challenges-of-food-security-in-india#:~:text=India%20is%20ranked%20107th%20out,had%20a%20value%20of%2027.5.,> last visited on 22/3/23

¹⁶ Poverty is certainly a significant factor that contributes to the non-availability of food for many Indians. India is home to a large number of people living below the poverty line, and for many of them, accessing adequate

8. **Wastage of Food:** Food wastage is a significant problem in India, where a significant proportion of the population struggles with poverty and hunger. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), India wastes around 67 million tons of food every year, which is enough to feed the entire population of Bihar, one of India's poorest states, for an entire year.¹⁹ There are several reasons for food wastage in India. One of the main reasons is the lack of proper storage and transportation facilities, which leads to spoilage of perishable foods like fruits and vegetables. Additionally, many farmers do not have access to proper market channels, and their produce goes unsold, resulting in wastage. Thus, the issue of food wastage is a significant problem in India. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about one-third of the food produced in the world for human consumption is lost or wasted every year²⁰, and India is among the top 10 countries with the highest food wastage. There are several initiatives taken by the government, NGOs, and individuals to address this issue. One of the key initiatives is the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) "Save Food, Share Joy"²¹ campaign, which aims to create awareness among people about the importance of reducing food waste and encourages them to share excess food with the needy.

FOOD LAWS IN INDIA

and nutritious food is a daily struggle. The lack of financial resources makes it difficult for people to purchase enough food to meet their nutritional needs. Additionally, poverty often leads to inadequate infrastructure and limited access to basic necessities like clean water and sanitation facilities, which further exacerbates the problem. Furthermore, poverty also affects the agriculture sector, which is the primary source of food production in India. Farmers, who are mostly small-scale, face numerous challenges such as limited access to credit, unpredictable weather patterns, and market fluctuations, which affect their yields and income. This, in turn, affects the availability and affordability of food for consumers. Overall, poverty is indeed a significant reason for the non-availability of food to many Indians, and addressing poverty and its root causes is crucial to ensuring food security for all.

¹⁷ Unequal distribution of resources can contribute to the scarcity of food in certain regions or populations. When resources such as land, water, and seeds are not distributed equally, it can result in some people having limited access to these resources, which can lead to food scarcity. For example, if a few large landowners control most of the arable land in a region, small-scale farmers and other community members may not have access to enough land to grow crops or raise livestock. This can limit their ability to produce enough food to meet their needs or to sell at markets for income. Similarly, unequal access to water can limit agricultural production, particularly in arid or semi-arid regions. In some cases, certain groups may also have greater access to seeds, fertilizers, or other inputs that are critical for crop production, further exacerbating the unequal distribution of resources. Overall, while unequal resource distribution is not the only factor contributing to food scarcity, it can play an important role in limiting access to food for certain populations. Addressing issues of resource inequality may therefore be an important step towards improving food security in these areas.

¹⁸ India is facing the adverse effects of climate change, including erratic monsoon patterns, droughts, and floods, which affect agricultural production and food availability.

¹⁹ Zia Haq, Food India wastes can feed all of the Bihar for a year, available at, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/food-india-wastes-can-feed-all-of-bihar-for-a-year-shows-govt-study/story-qwV3C9YnJAoXn83b3htmsK.html>, last visited on 1/4/23

²⁰ Global food losses and food waste, available at, <https://www.fao.org/3/mb060e/mb060e00.htm#:~:text=The%20results%20of%20the%20study,1.3%20billion%20tons%20per%20year.>, last visited on 27/3/23

²¹ Save Food Share Food, available at, <https://eatrightindia.gov.in/sharefood/about.html>, last visited on 13/4/23

In India, there are several laws and regulations in place that aim to prevent food waste and promote food security.

One of the most prominent laws is the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. This act sets standards for food safety and quality, including regulations on food labelling, packaging, and handling. It also establishes the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), which is responsible for enforcing these regulations.

In addition, the Indian government has launched several initiatives to reduce food waste, such as the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Campaign) and the Save Food Share Food campaign which is an initiative to promote food donation and curb food waste & food loss in the country.²² These initiatives aim to raise awareness about the issue of food waste and encourage individuals and organizations to take action to prevent it. There are also several NGOs and charitable organizations in India that work to prevent food waste and distribute surplus food to those in need. These include Feeding India²³, Robin Hood Army²⁴, and Food Bank India²⁵, among others.

Overall, while there is no specific law in India that directly addresses food waste, there are several regulations and initiatives in place to promote food security and reduce waste.

RIGHT TO FOOD UNDER INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Although the Constitution of India does not recognise the right to food as a fundamental right, it gives recognition to the right under various articles and the preamble. It aims to ensure adequate food to all its citizens and to provide safe and nutritious food to all.²⁶ The right to food is thus implicit in the right to life enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees every person the right to live with dignity.

RIGHT TO FOOD AND PREAMBLE OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION

The right to food is not explicitly mentioned in the preamble of the Constitution of most countries, but it is often included as a fundamental right in their constitutions or other laws. The preamble of a constitution sets out the basic principles and values on which the constitution is based. It is a brief introductory statement that typically outlines the objectives and purposes of the constitution. While it may not specifically mention the right to food, it often includes language that reflects the importance of ensuring social justice, equality, and the welfare of all citizens.

²² Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, available at, <https://fssai.gov.in/cms/save-food--share-food--share-joy.php>, last visited on 12/3/23

²³ See Feed India, available at, <http://www.feedindia.org.in/>, last visited on 24/3/23

²⁴ See Robin Hood Army, available at, <https://robinhoodarmy.com/>, last visited on 23/3/23

²⁵ See India Food Banking Network, available at, <https://www.indiafoodbanking.org/#:~:text=India%20FoodBanking%20Network%20addresses%20the,food%20assistance%20and%20nourishment%20programs.>, last visited on 12/4/23

²⁶ Sushree Choudary, Right to Food, available at, https://blog.ipleaders.in/right-to-food/#Right_to_food_and_the_Indian_Constitution, last visited on 10/4/23

For example, the preamble to the Constitution of India, which is one of the few constitutions that explicitly recognizes the right to food, states that the constitution is intended to secure "Justice, social, economic and political; Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship; Equality of status and of opportunity." These values are all connected to the right to food, as access to adequate and nutritious food is essential for social and economic justice, as well as equality of opportunity.

RIGHT TO FOOD AS A PART OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT UNDER ARTICLE 21 RIGHT TO LIFE

The Constitution guarantees the fundamental right to a dignified life. The right to life under the Constitution does not merely mean animal existence. Life guaranteed under this Constitution does not only include physical existence. It includes the right to live with human dignity. Since the need for food to satisfy hunger is the basic necessity of life and without food life becomes impossible, the right to food is thus protected under the right to life.²⁷

In a number of judgments the judiciary has recognised the right to food as a right flowing from the right to life guaranteed under the Constitution of India.²⁸ Also in an exhaustive landmark judgement of *Keshvananda Bharati v. State of Kerala* (1973) which discussed the basic structure of the Constitution talked about the right to be free from starvation as an integral part of the right to life under part III of the constitution.²⁹ In another case of *Dena Nath v. National Fertilisers Ltd.*(1991), the court directed the establishment of food canteens in every worker's quarters and to provide food in these canteens at a subsidised rate. This was

²⁷Ritika Gupta, Right to food under Indian Constitution and its present scenario, available at, <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-2384-right-to-food-under-indian-constitution-and-its-present-scenario.html>, last visited on 22/3/23

²⁸ See, Right to Life is Right to Food, available at, <https://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/r24372.pdf>, last visited on 12/4/23. In several landmark cases Indian courts has taken a very clear stand that Right to Life is Right to Food. In case of *People's Union for Civil Liberties v. Union of India & Others* (PUCL), the Supreme Court explicitly established a constitutional human right to food and determined a basic nutritional floor for India's impoverished millions.

In landmark case of *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India* (available at, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1766147/>) the Supreme Court while delivering the judgement stated, Right to life enshrined in Article 21 means something more than animal instinct and includes the right to live with human dignity, it would include all these aspects which would make life meaningful, complete and living.

Also in the case of *Shantistar Builders v. Narayan Khimalal Totame* (available at, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1813295/>) the Supreme Court stated that basic needs of man have traditionally been accepted to the three - food, clothing and shelter.

While the Supreme Court of India did not specifically mention the right to food as a fundamental right in *Kishan Patnaik v. State of Odisha*, it did take notice of the petitioner's letter to the court outlining the situation of starving people in the Kalahandi region of Odisha who even sold their children to satisfy the demand of hunger. The court then ordered the state government to address the serious problem of starvation.

Additionally, it was determined in the case of *Chameli Devi v. State of U.P.*(available at, <https://indiankanoon.org/doc/98288709/>) that everyone has the right to a standard of living that is sufficient for his or her own health and well-being as well as the welfare of his or her family, including food, clothing, housing, medical treatment, and essential social services.

²⁹ Danish Sharma, Right to Food, available at, <https://legalstudymaterial.com/right-to-food/>, last visited on 11/4/13

to ensure the workers get access to adequate food and uphold their rights.³⁰ Thus, the right to life imposes upon the Nation State the Constitutional obligation to ensure that there is no violation of the right to food.

The Indian government has enacted various policies and programs to ensure food security for its citizens such as:

- Public Distribution System (PDS)³¹, which provides subsidized food grains to poor and vulnerable sections of society through a network of fair price shops.
- Mid-Day Meal Scheme³², \Integrated Child Development Services³³ (ICDS), and
- The National Food Security Act ³⁴(NFSA) to provide food to children, pregnant women, and other vulnerable groups.

However it also seen that there are various problems in implementation of these schemes. Below are some of the reasons that researcher could figure it out:

1. Fair price shops many a times do not supply rations which leads to black marketing and creation of false scarcity.
2. There is dearth in appropriate numbers of enforcement officers
3. Fraudulent and duplicitous distribution of ration cards on the basis of false and distort records.
4. Improper mechanism for evaluation of various schemes.
5. There are instances wherein the ration card holders are not properly aware about various schemes of government and procedure for procurement of food grains.

The Indian government has also taken various steps to ensure food safety and nutrition. For instance, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established in 2006 to regulate food safety and hygiene in the country. Additionally, the government has launched various programs to promote healthy eating habits and to address malnutrition.

In addition to above, the Constitution of India provides for the following provisions related to the right to food:

³⁰ Ibid 29

³¹ See, National Food Security Portal Public Distribution System, available at, https://nfsa.gov.in/portal/PDS_page#:~:text=PDS%20is%20operated%20under%20the,grains%20to%20the%20State%20Governments., last visited on 13/3/23

³² Akshay Patra, Mid day meal Scheme, available at, <https://www.akshayapatra.org/indias-mid-day-meal-scheme>, last visited on 27/3/23

³³ Integrated Child Development Scheme, available at, <http://icds-wcd.nic.in/icds.aspx>, last visited on 22/3/23

³⁴ Government of India Department of Food and Public Distribution, National Food Securities Act 2013, available at, <https://dfpd.gov.in/nfsa.htm#:~:text=Besides%20meal%20to%20pregnant%20women,per%20the%20prescribed%20nutritional%20standards.,> last visited on 12/4/23

1. **Directive Principles of State Policy:** The Directive Principles of State Policy, enshrined in Part IV of the Constitution, provide for the duty of the State to secure the right to adequate means of livelihood, including food, for all citizens.
2. **Fundamental Rights:** The Constitution also provides for certain fundamental rights that are directly related to the right to food. For instance, Article 39(a) of the Constitution directs the State to provide for adequate means of livelihood to all citizens, and Article 47 directs the State to improve public health by providing for the adequate nutrition and standards of living.
3. **National Food Security Act:** The National Food Security Act, 2013, is a landmark legislation that provides for the right to food to all citizens of India. The Act mandates the government to provide food grains to two-thirds of the population at highly subsidized rates. The Act also provides for the setting up of a National Food Commission to monitor the implementation of the Act.
4. **Agriculture:** Agriculture is an important part of the Indian economy, and the Constitution recognizes this by including provisions related to agriculture. Article 39(a) of the Constitution directs the State to ensure that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good. Article 48 mandates the State to take steps to organize agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and to promote cottage industries.

In summary, the Indian Constitution recognizes the right to food, emphasizes the importance of agriculture, and mandates the government to take steps to ensure food security for all citizens.

CONCLUSION

Protecting the right to food is an important issue, and there are several steps that can be taken to help ensure that people have access to adequate and nutritious food. Here are some suggestions:

1. **Raise awareness:** The first step to protecting the right to food is to raise awareness about the issue. This can be done through education campaigns, public events, and media coverage.
2. **Advocate for policies that promote food security:** Governments can adopt policies that promote food security, such as providing subsidies for small-scale farmers, improving infrastructure to help farmers get their products to market, and providing food assistance programs to those in need.
3. **Encourage sustainable agriculture:** Sustainable agriculture practices can help to protect the environment, increase crop yields, and improve food security. This includes practices such as crop rotation, intercropping, and agroforestry.

4. **Address poverty:** Poverty is one of the main barriers to accessing adequate food. Addressing poverty through measures such as income support programs, job creation, and access to education and training can help to improve food security.
5. **Ensure access to clean water:** Access to clean water is essential for growing crops and for human consumption. Governments and NGOs can work to provide access to clean water in communities where it is lacking.
6. **Support food banks and other food assistance programs:** Food banks and other food assistance programs can help to provide food to those in need. Governments and NGOs can support these programs by providing funding and resources.
7. **Monitor and hold accountable those who violate the right to food:** Governments must also ensure that those who violate the right to food are held accountable. This includes monitoring food production and distribution systems to ensure that they are fair and equitable, and prosecuting those who engage in practices that harm food security.

Apart from these, governments, international organizations and civil society must work together to ensure that this right is upheld and that everyone has access to adequate food. This includes addressing issues such as poverty, food insecurity, unequal access to resources, and climate change, among others.

To address this issue, it is necessary to take a multi-pronged approach that includes improving access to education and job opportunities to reduce poverty, developing better distribution systems, improving agricultural practices and infrastructure, and implementing effective government policies. Additionally, increasing public awareness and encouraging community participation can also help to create a more sustainable and equitable food system in India.

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