

Universal Periodic Review

Right to Food: Progress made in selected FAO member countries

India

In India, the right to food advanced greatly in 2001, when a civil liberties NGO in Rajasthan filed a written petition in the Supreme Court seeking legal enforcement of the right to food. While the Supreme Court considers a final judgement on the case, it has issued 44 interim orders turning various government programmes into legally binding entitlements for poor and vulnerable persons. Among these programmes are the implementation of a mid-day school meal programmes, the largest in the world serving 50 million cooked meals daily, and the Integrated Child Development Scheme. Moreover, partly as a result of the court case decision, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was enacted in 2005.

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