

# THE RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN

A campaign started in India to advocate for citizens' right to food through the reform of current government feeding programs. (Hertel 72)

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## OVERVIEW

The Right to Food Campaign calls for the recognition of the right to food as a basic human right, one that the government is responsible for fulfilling. The Right to Food Campaign aims to achieve its goals through democratic means, for example, through the reform of the current governmental food programs, as they are not sufficient. The Right to Food Campaign was created in response to the high rates of malnutrition and the increasing potential of famine across India. (Hertel 72-73)

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## TIMELINE OF LEGAL ENTRENCHMENT

**1990s** - A huge wave of rights-based social mobilization breaks out in India, one of the focuses is on the right to food

**2001** - Legal action concerning the right to food was taken through the filing of public interest litigation with the Supreme Court

**2001** - The Right to Food Campaign officially begins

**2002** - A commission is created to monitor and ensure the implementation of interim orders issued by the Supreme Court in order to ensure the improvement of state feeding programs

**2012** - The proposed food security law (the National Food Security Act) is set to create more negative change, rather than positive. The Right to Food Campaign calls for protests to protest the law

**2013** - The Right to Food Campaign releases a rebuttal to the National Food Security Act, going as far as to call it "a leap backward" (Hertel 87)

**2013** - The National Food Security Act is passed into law

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## THE RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN IN THE PRESENT DAY

The Right to Food Campaign continues to advocate for the universal right to food and the improvement of government feeding programs. While there have been some victories since the passing of the National Food Security Act in 2013, change is still necessary and ongoing.

Most recently, on February 2, 2022, The Right to Food Campaign released a statement criticizing the 2022-2023 Union budget, in terms of the lack of funding necessary to prevent malnutrition and overall hunger. Rather than allocating more funding to feeding programs, funding was actually reduced in a time of crisis. The Right to Food Campaign also provides detailed recommendations as to how funding should be allocated to ensure the prevention of mass hunger and malnutrition.

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## HOW TO HELP- RESOURCES LINKED

- [A group of emails, organized by date, that include relevant updates and links regarding the Right to Food Campaign](#)
- [The Right to Food Campaign official website](#)
- [How to get involved by volunteering for the Right to Food Campaign](#)
- [Contribute to the Right to Food Campaign](#)

### Works Cited

Hertel, Shareen. "Hungry for Justice: Social Mobilization on the Right to Food in India." *Development and Change*, vol. 46, no. 1, 2014, DOI: 10.1111/dech.12144. Accessed 5 March 2022.

Right to Food Campaign. Statement on Union Budget 2022-23. 2022, [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KtTqy9ce6\\_B38kn\\_MJ6axlOP7AM7QGm0/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KtTqy9ce6_B38kn_MJ6axlOP7AM7QGm0/view).