

Dr. D.M. Mulay

(Member, NHRC, INDIA)

Interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteur Food

Respected Chair, India has a very comprehensive legislative and policy framework to ensure food and nutritional security to all the people of the country such as the National Food Security Act of 2013. The objective of this Act is to provide food and nutritional security by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75%¹ of the rural² and upto 50%³ of the urban population⁴.

Over the decades, the Commission's engagement with the issues of right to food has evolved and expanded through the constitution of the Core Group on Right to Food which consists of domain experts from Government, Civil Societies, academicians etc. The Group regularly reviews the existing government policies, legislations and their enforcement all across India.

As mandated under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 the Commission sponsored research projects on 'Nutritional care of children below 5 years of age' last year.

Further, the Commission has issued Human Rights Advisory on Right to Food Security and Nutrition in the context of Covid-19⁵ which includes recommendations such as Expanding the Public Distribution System to include nutritious food and Relaxing the requirement of mandatory aadhaar seeding for accessing PDS entitlements etc.

Thank you
