



## NATIONAL WEBINAR

*In collaboration with Jharkhand State Food Commission*

### NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT, 2013 & COVID-19: *An Introspection and Way forward*

**10th February 2021 (Wednesday)**

## CONCEPT NOTE

Add a little 'Right to food' - a basic human right of everyone.

Way Forward to end hunger deaths from the lessons learned from COVID - 19

National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, which provides legal entitlement to 67% of the population to receive highly subsidized food grains. The Act provides for the allocation of 5kg per person per month for priority households category and 35 kg per family per month for AAY families at highly subsidized prices of Rs.1/-, Rs.2/- and Rs.3/- per kg for nutria-cereals, wheat and rice respectively.

The Act is being implemented in all 36 States/UTs and covers about approx. 81.35 crore persons. The annual allocation of food grain under NFSA and other welfare schemes is about 610 Lakh Metric Tons.

The following is the Preamble of the Act:

*'An Act to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices, to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or, incidental thereto'.*

Via the NFSA, 2013, India took the oath of ending the hunger deaths. The Act, 2013 provides right to receive food grains at subsidized prices by persons belonging to eligible households under Targeted Public Distribution System and Nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, nutritional support to children through Integrated Child Development Scheme and prevention and management of child malnutrition through Anganwadi system.

The Act, 2013 established District Grievance Redressal Officer and State Food Commission as Appellate authority. The State Food Commission is provided with the statutory functions i.e., monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Act within the State; either suo moto or on receipt of complaint inquire into violations of entitlements; give advice to the State Government on effective implementation of this Act, give advice to the State Government and other related agencies involved in the delivery of relevant services, for the effective implementation of food and nutrition-related schemes, to enable individuals to fully access their entitlement; hear appeals against orders of the District Grievance Redressal Officer, prepare annual reports etc.

In the ordinary days, the implementation of NFSA posed tough challenges to the Government and COVID-19 pandemic threatened the availability, access, stability and utilization of food. The fragile living 100 million migrant workers, who had to walk miles and miles with empty stomachs created an unforeseen situation for the national managers of the food security.

Disruption of food supply chains and decline of demand caused huge loss of production and income to the farmers, traders and consumers. Food security chain stressed due to the global economic slowdown; uncertain incomes and reduced purchasing power; unavailability of labor/manpower and restrictions on movements – local, imports and exports.

## SUB-THEMES

- **Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on food security**
- **Food Security Act, 2013, COVID- 19 Pandemic & the Migrant Labour**
- **Challenges to Food Supply Chain Management during COVID – 19 and its impact on Food Security**
- **Challenges in implementing Targeted Public Distribution System, Pradhan Mantri**
- **Matruvandana Yojana and Integrated Child Development Scheme during COVID-19**
- **State Food Security Commission & COVID-19: Challenges & Lessons learnt**
- **Implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 – Post COVID-19**
- **Food Security during COVID-19 in Jharkhand**

## ABOUT THE CENTER FOR CHILD RIGHTS

The Center for Child Rights of NUSRL, Ranchi is functioning from last three years in the State of Jharkhand on various issues of Child Rights & Child Protection in collaboration with UNICEF. The Center conducted various State level training programmes, consultations, review meetings for the personnel dealing with children in Jharkhand such as Para Legal Volunteers, Village level Child protection committees, Child Welfare Committees, JJB members, Police personnel, medical professionals dealing with POCSO cases, counsellors etc.

The Center also conducting the training programmes for the personnel dealing with children in the State of Jharkhand on Restorative Justice.

The Center for Child Rights, National University of Study and Research in Law is organizing the “National Webinar on National Food Security Act, 2013 & Covid-19: Introspection & Way Forward” with an objective to assess the challenges faced by the stakeholders of the food security regime; to understand the lessons learnt and to develop a way forward.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Center for Child Rights invites the papers from the interested researchers, academicians, lawyers, activists, NGO organizations, stakeholders of the food security system, students etc., on the aforementioned sub-themes. The following is the submission guidelines:

### CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles: 5000 -7000 words

Essays: 3000 - 5000 words

Case Comments: 2000- 3000 words

*Note: Word limits are exclusive of footnotes*

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Co-authorship is permitted, subject to a limit of maximum two authors per submission.
2. An abstract of not more than 300 words should be accompanied with every submission. It should describe the relevant conclusion drawn in the manuscript. The Abstract will form a part of the manuscript and is not required to be submitted before.
3. Author(s) Name(s), University/Organization, Paper Title, Email Address and Mobile Number, to be stated clearly, in a separate document and mailed with the manuscript.
4. No part of the paper should have been published earlier nor should it be under consideration for publication. Any form of plagiarism will result in immediate rejection of the paper.
5. Date of Submission: February 8, 2021
6. Submissions are to be mailed at [ccr@nusrlranchi.ac.in](mailto:ccr@nusrlranchi.ac.in) as a .doc or .docx file only.
7. The subject of the mail must-read “Submission for National Webinar on National Food Security Act, 2013 & Covid-19: Introspection & Way Forward”

#### Patron

Prof.(Dr.) Kesava Rao Vurakula  
Vice Chancellor, NUSRL

#### Seminar Organizer

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