

Detailed Workshop Resolutions passed at the
Fourth National Convention on Right to Food, Rourkela, Odisha
6th to 8th August, 2010

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Workshop on Agriculture and Related Issues

1. No diversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses and no diversion of existing food crop lands or food crops to non food use, even as choices for small and marginal farmers are safeguarded.
2. Access and control over all natural resources that support the livelihoods of the marginalized should be in the hands of people whose livelihoods depend on them, especially in the hands of the most vulnerable groups, particularly women
3. Stop promoting all toxic and unsustainable agricultural technologies in the name of “modern agriculture”, including chemical pesticides, GM seeds and chemical fertilizers.
4. Promote and incentivise sustainable agriculture technologies that are bio-diverse, and pro-environment. This should also be done to mitigate GHG emissions from agriculture that cause climate change as well as for adaptation to climate change. State should compile all successful experiments of organic farming and share the same with other farmers. Govt. should also support and incentivize marketing of produce from sustainable agriculture.
5. State should fix support prices which are fair and remunerative, with the largest share of the retail price going to primary producers. Further, it should be compulsory for State to procure all food grains including millets, pulses and oil seeds. This should be treated as an entitlement of farmers.
6. Provide local grains which are locally procured in decentralized models for PDS, mid-day meal and ICDS.
7. Subsidize labour in agriculture rather than external inputs; integrate NREGA with sustainable agriculture.
8. Provide direct income support to farmers and agricultural workers beginning with Dalits, advisasis, women, marginal and small farmers.
9. State should fulfill the unfulfilled mandate of equitable land distribution to all landless and share croppers and for this, State should enact and implement a comprehensive land reform act. Further, reversion of land ceiling should be stopped. Further, government should ensure that corporations do not violate this land ceiling.
10. Draw a comprehensive balance sheet of the Green Revolution through democratic processes before the government formulates any other agricultural policy. We oppose the current proposals around the implementation of Green Revolution in Eastern India
11. State should substantially increase investment in dryland agriculture.
12. Prioritize food crops over cash crops esp. in food-scarce region
13. Stop corporatization of agriculture, both in terms of external inputs into agriculture and outputs from agriculture, including at the retail end.
14. Stop major irrigation projects and invest in minor and micro irrigation projects which are specifically meant for irrigation for agriculture; No diversion of irrigation water for industrial use.
15. Revitalize and strengthen Food Corporation of India to support localized procurement and storage. FCI should be made accountable to PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions)
16. Adequate credit should be provided on reasonable conditions to all farmers, including share croppers and women farmers.
17. Keep agriculture out of free trade agreements. Make public all documents related to FTAs and immediately hold consultations with farmers, other affected groups and state governments on this issue.

18. Stop commodification and privatization of Seed and ensure that control over seed remains in the hands of farmers. Conserve and revive indigenous seeds. Public sector agriculture research centers' should promote and release straight line varieties.
19. Ensure access and control of communities over all such eco systems which provides uncultivated food.
20. Enact and provide comprehensive social security to all agricultural workers and farmers including share croppers. Share croppers should be made eligible to all benefits and rights, at par with farmers.
21. Women in agriculture should be recognized as farmers and they should be made eligible for all the rights and benefits at par with 'farmers'
22. PDS should be re-modelled towards universal and decentralized, local production- local storage- local distribution systems, covering all the food crops
23. Comprehensive crop insurance on all crops to be provided at the farmer level, especially keeping in mind the current Climate Change content.
24. Government should encourage and strengthen of farmers co-operatives.
25. Stop eucalyptus and biofuel plantations.
26. Government should stop current proposals in BRAI bill and Seeds Bill which promote seed monopolies and corporatization of seeds.

Workshop on Forest Land Rights

1. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) which is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, must issue directions to all state governments to give status of Gram/village to all forest villages/un-surveyed villages and forest hamlets and form Forest Rights Committees (FRC) as soon as possible, as this is the most important mechanism for claiming community forest rights and protection of forest, wildlife and biodiversity.
2. The MoTA must direct all the States Governments to expedite the community forest claims submission process, to verify community rights claims and to provide community forest rights entitlements. In this process the recommendation of the Gram sabha must be respected, the FRCs supported and all provisions under the FRA strictly adhered to.
3. The Forest Rights Act 2006 has recognized and entrusted the rights over forest to the tribals and other forest dwellers. Any interference or threat from the Forest Department would not only be a violation of the FRA but also of the Constitution.
4. The state governments should not misguide the forest dwellers development rights as the community forest rights. Community forest rights should be ensured first than the individual forest rights.
5. The JFMC/VSS in all the states must be immediately dissolved and the forest protection committees (consisting of the forest dwellers themselves who have their own forest protection, regeneration and management practices) must be recognised.
6. No diversion of forest lands for other non forest uses should be allowed, without the consent of the respective gram sabha(s). Moreover, claims of all individual and community rights must be settled first before diversion of forest land for any other purposes or for declaration of forest land as wildlife habitat or tiger habitat.
7. Forest land that has already been diverted to companies and private bodies after the enactment of FRA, without settling rights, should be returned to the individuals/gram sabha(s).
8. Section 4(5) of the Forest Rights Act, "no member of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dweller shall be evicted or removed from forest land under his occupation till the recognition and verification procedure is complete" must be respected

9. Forest land diverted for any developmental programme/projects and not being used for the same purpose within five years of acquisition should be returned back to the respective gram sabha as their community forest resources.
10. All state laws hindering ownership rights on MFP to the tribals and forest dwellers must be modified.
11. Since MFP contributes to major parts of nutrient food securities to the forest dwelling communities, minimum support price along with the storing, infrastructure facilities and ensuring market facilities of these forest produces must be ensured.
12. There should be social audit of the money allocated and of the role and responsibilities of the SDLCD/DLC.
13. State Governments must withdraw all the forest offence cases filed against people (under 1927 Indian Forest Act, 1972 Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Forest Conservation Act, 1980) as it has been admitted in FRA that historical injustice was done to the forest dwellers.
14. All types of plantations in the occupied and claimed forest land in both individual and community forest rights must be stopped.
15. Stop creating revenue based monoculture forest by destroying natural forest destroying biodiversity.
16. As per the provisions under the FRA, 2006 oral evidence of the elders and recommendations of the Gram Sabha should be taken as the criteria to decide over the claims of the Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFD).
17. Illegal declaration of critical wildlife habitats/tiger habitat without following the provisions as laid down in the Forest Rights Act must be stopped and clear guidelines regarding this must be issued. No critical wildlife habitat/tiger habitat can be declared without the consent of all the forest dwellers/gram sabhas.
18. Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) must be protected by protecting their habitat. This is very important as the areas where PTGs live are most prone to mining, industries and displacement.
19. That the central government should immediately come up with the detailed survey and settlement plan for forest villages/un-surveyed areas and convert them in to revenue villages and extend all the development programmes to the forest dwellers including those residing in sanctuaries
20. All the state governments should ensure that FRC members have access to all the circulars/orders issued from time to time in their vernacular languages.

Workshop on Wages and Employment

1. The Government must declare a national floor wage for all workers based on the principle of need based minimum wage as defined by the 15th Indian Labour Commission, and indexed to inflation, below which no state government may notify a minimum wage. This wage must ensure a minimum standard of living for workers, and in no case shall there be payment for any worker below this wage.
2. The idea of a wage subsidy to be given by the Government in cases where employers are unable to pay such wages due to non viability of their businesses must be explored.
3. The national floor wage/ minimum wage cannot be a piece rate or output/productivity linked wage but must be for an 8 hour day and 48 hour working week.
4. The power to inspect a workplace where a minimum wage violation has occurred must be extended to a registered trade union.
5. Non-payment of minimum wage must be made a recognizable offense.

Workshop on Displacement

1. Under no circumstances should livelihood of local groups be taken away and they shouldn't be displaced from their villages.
2. The decision to build development projects should remain with the local groups whether the state had a definition or not, and gram sabhas should be held where these decisions must be made.
3. We will fight against every project which is displacing people and taking away their livelihoods. We will fight to save our land, forest, water and other natural resources.

Workshop on SHGs and Women

Framework and Discourse-level Issues

1. It is the state's responsibility to allocate funds to ensure women's universal right to food, health and nutrition, work and employment, social security, education and freedom from violence. Microcredit cannot be the only intervention for women.
2. The main focus of the State should be marginalized groups like women farmers, wage labourers, women from SC/ST communities, persons with disability, single women, etc.
3. Rural banking must be promoted. Everyone must have a bank account in her name.
4. Microfinance and microcredit programmes must cover issues of empowerment, skill up gradation, livelihood security and dignity of woman.
5. Women's work must be valued. Their work in the household, community development and child care must be defined as economically productive work. The State must not instrumentally use the time and labour of SHG women to meet run programmes or meet its targets for PDS, MDM, girls' enrolment, immunisation, etc, without providing proper remuneration and compensation for wage loss to women.

Operational Issues

1. All women who are part of SHGs should be provided with inputs for new technical and technological skills. Literacy and education should be a part of these inputs. Up-gradation and value addition of existing traditional skills is also important.
2. For food security and livelihood strengthening the State must ensure that women's groups have control and ownership over common property resources. The right to private property should also be properly enforced.
3. Promoting agencies must ensure that women are not compromising their own food, nutrition and health needs to bear the burden of savings and credit. SHGs should be enabled to deal with and address intra-household inequities, e.g. women eating at last, negligence of their own nutrition, cutting their needs for saving and repaying loans.
4. Rural women must have easy access to credit through direct rural banking and at low interest rates.
5. Subsidies as well as seed money or revolving fund should be promoted by government.
6. Microfinance institutions must be regulated and there must be an interest cap. Not following the regulations must be a punishable offense
7. All the banks like private, national and international banks should open 25% of their branches in backward and rural area.

Workshop on Children's Right to Food

General

1. For all individual based entitlements (eg PDS in some states) children above 6 months should be counted as an additional member of the household.
2. Anganwadi workers should be given the status of public servants with proper working conditions including salary, leave, pension and promotion.
3. There should be no Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in food and nutrition.
4. Conflict of interest in technical support to work related to food and nutrition security must not be allowed.

Management of Malnutrition

5. Parents have a right to know the nutrition status of their children. This should be the responsibility of the AW worker and growth monitoring cards should be made available to every child
6. A 'malnutrition fund' should be set up at the gram panchayat level for immediate response to any emergency related to malnutrition.
7. Community-based programmes for management of all grades of malnutrition, including severe, should be started in all high-prevalence districts immediately. These should be based on enhanced provision of locally available nutritious foods.
8. ASHA must play a central role in identification, management and follow up of severe malnutrition.
9. The status of malnutrition should be placed on the monthly meetings of VHSC and gram sabha by default
10. Monitoring committees of parents/mothers at anganwadi centres should be set up/revitalized.

Take Home Rations

11. Children of 6 months to three years should be given nutritious take-home rations, which are locally produced and culturally acceptable, on a weekly basis. Additionally, eggs/bananas, should be provided at least once a week.
12. Take home rations should be produced in a decentralized manner by local groups/SHGs; these should not be at a level above the gram panchayat.
13. In every state, the different recipes for take home rations should be finalized by nutritionists such that at least half the nutritional requirements of children of this age group are met. The financial allocations should be based on this and further, inflation indexed.

Community Monitoring

14. ICDS centres should be brought under the purview of village health and sanitation committee (VHSC) which should be constituted with the appropriate number of beneficiaries, elected representatives, CBOs, SHGs, and these committees be regularly trained and oriented.
15. Block and district level committees, including members of VHSC should be set up for monitoring the ICDS centres regularly.
16. Village health and nutrition day should be organized more efficiently through proper training of AWW, ASHA, VHSC and monthly community monitoring tool be filled during this process. Some extra allotment for this should be provided to VHSC.
17. Social audit mechanism and public hearings should be organized periodically at all levels and the action taken reports be published. The Tamil Nadu experience of celebrating November 21 as

anganwadi day by gram sabhas and similar structure in urban areas should be adopted and made mandatory.

18. All the entitlements and details like number of beneficiaries be exhibited outside the AWC and should also be available on the internet.

Pregnant and Lactating women and Children under 6 months

19. Every pregnant woman has the right to nutritious food, healthcare, immunization, registration, check ups and counseling on breastfeeding.
20. ANMs, FSWs, and AWWs should be trained to check for anemia.
21. All pregnant women and their partners should be tested for HIV after counseling is provided to her and her partner.
22. All women identified as high risk pregnancies should be provided all services at home including food supplements and referral transport as and when needed.
23. All migrant pregnant women should be entitled to services like registration, check ups, immunization, IFA tablets, and supplementary nutrition even when they migrate.
24. Mothers should be helped to breastfeed within one hour of the delivery.
25. All infants should be weighed and given immunization after birth.
26. PHCs should conduct delivery.
27. Emergency services during pregnancy and for new born infants should be provided when needed.
28. Doctors should not be allowed to prescribe formula
29. Women should be given financial and nutritional support to carry out breastfeeding. crèche facilities must be made available at worksites.

Workshop on Water: Industry versus Life and Livelihood

1. Right to safe drinking water should be made part of food security.
2. Traditional users of water should not be deprived of their rights
3. Persons who are displaced because of hydro-projects must get a share of the benefits of the same project for which have are displaced.
4. Water should not be diverted any more for any new industry.

Workshop on Women and Food Security

1. Women's Production of Life and Livelihood (household labour, procreation, childcare, agriculture, artisanal work, creation of use values, income generation, including "invisible work") must be recognized as productive and foundational for the mode of production and for society at large. This recognition must be realized in the family, the institutions in society and by the State through legislations and mechanisms of implementation.
2. We need to change the dominant social tradition, which is patriarchal in nature and women should have the control on her sexuality and procreation and over productive resources, including land, water, finance skill enhancement and representation in decision making at all levels.
3. Women and men should have equal right over agricultural land, forest land and natural resources. Land rights for women should be recognised. Not just land in the name of woman, but entitlement of women should be recognised along with her control over seed, production and market. Women must

be represented in panchayats and gram sabhas and have a say in how land is used, including so-called development projects.

4. To do the above, workshops should be held in every state to build consensus and capacity of women farmers. The State must create mechanisms for women's participation in all development schemes and projects. Social movements must make women's active participation a high priority. Men must learn cooking, serving, caring, including child care.
5. In light of violence against women, there should be a structural support in place. Violence also takes the form of feticide and neglect of female babies, especially in green revolution areas which are more capital intensive in inputs. Helping girl children out of this world by malnutrition and medical neglect is part of this tendency. This breeds depression, guilt and low self-esteem of adult women, who also tend to be anemic and malnourished.
6. Women should have the ownership on the wealth of her father and not be dominated by patriarchal values.
7. All development schemes should have social audit as monitoring mechanism from the women's perspective.
8. Equal focus on rural and urban women regarding food security and livelihood issue
9. Name of mother also should be there while introducing any rule regarding children's education etc
10. Vulnerability of women also should be considered during crisis or any situation which is unwelcome
11. Adolescent, pregnant, lactating and old age women should be given more attention and nutritious food
12. Application of life cycle approach should be made
13. Widow women should get ownership on her husband's land and property
14. Food security issues for sex workers and transgenders, disabled and dalit women need special consideration because of discrimination and social ostracism.
15. Ration card should be made in the name of women.
16. There needs to be drastic change in the whole mode of production to put Production of Life and Livelihood at the centre of the production process instead of Production of Profit. Social movements have to work out this feminist dimension in their struggles.
17. De-recognition of women as producers and cornerstone of society leads to female feticide and fall in juvenile sex-ratio. This breeds more violence in society as a vicious circle. Malnutrition of women, rape and militarization are connected symptoms of this situation.

Workshop on Rights of Fishing Communities

1. Fish is an important protein rich food and a source of livelihood for thousands of men and women in the country.
2. The ability of our water resources (both sea and inland) to produce food in the context of pollution, and degradation of ecosystem needs to be maintained.
3. The bio-diversity of our fish resources needs to be maintained. Small and indigenous, freshwater fish species are now being removed for the sake of commercial aquaculture for major carps and shrimps.
4. Access to resources by small-scale and traditional fishing communities and also demand access to fish for marketing and processing by women needs to be ensured.
5. Indigenous species of fish could be used in the MDM scheme especially in the coastal areas.

6. Fish farming, especially of small indigenous freshwater species, by rural women's groups must be promoted and skill training programs for them should be initiated. Public water bodies like ponds etc must be leased to these groups.
7. The government must put mechanisms in place for social control over export of marine products to ensure availability of fish for local consumers.
8. Right to protection from natural calamities, like flood and cyclones must be ensured for coastal communities.

Workshop on Rights Over Forest Produce

1. The right to forest produce is a constitutional obligation towards the forest-dwellers and forest-fringe villagers who maintain a symbiotic relationship with the forest. This right is also to be recognized as a strategic intervention to ensure natural relief to people affected by drought.
2. Forest-based food security is comparatively more resilient to the impacts of climate change than agriculture-based food security. Further, non-timber forest products, besides timber, provide socio-economic as well as cultural support to millions of poor & disadvantaged people in the country. Therefore all relevant policies/schemes/plans must be revised and integrated so as to ensure that the forest-based food security itself is secured and guaranteed under law, without affecting the average sustainability of the forest resource.
3. Relief and other kinds of support must be provided to PTGs, hunter-gatherers, and other such critically-forest-dependent vulnerable communities in case of a failure of important forest crops that otherwise help sustain the livelihood of these people.
4. There must be a special R&D drive in the country in order to ensure dignity of the collection of otherwise non-dignified forest produce, through development of adequate & commercially viable utilities that can replace the present non-dignified end uses like bidi and liquor (mahuli). Dignified alternative commercial uses of mahua, kendu leaf, and similar forest products need to be developed as a strategic part of the development programme for the SC/ST people.
5. Alternative markets for all single-use produces need to be developed in order to sustain trade and livelihoods based on the same.
6. Provisions of Forest Rights Act, 2006 and PESA need to be implemented at the earliest so that local communities can enjoy the commercial benefits of local resources of all kinds of minor forest products under their ownership, of course with due consideration for sustainability.

Workshop on Hunger and Starvation

1. Community vigilance is mandatory to check hunger and starvation and to pressurize government policies and bureaucracy.
2. Community monitoring of food related programmes must be a formally accepted component of the programmes that the bureaucracy welcomes for its value as feedback and uses for improving implementation.
3. Community level nutritional surveillance must be made a part of the ICDS and VHSC coordinated activities. Simple methods of early detection of impending increase in acute food deficits at

community level must be made part of a nutritional surveillance system that can provide useful information for use from local village to block to state and national levels.

4. Acute hunger, malnutrition and starvation must be clearly defined. Definitional gaps and problems need to be eliminated.
5. Health and livelihood impact assessment must be a prerequisite for the formulation and implementation of state policies and for the sanction of private projects. It must be made mandatory in all policies formulated.
6. There has to be a provision of automatic penalty on officials, built in the act, in case of default/ corruption, negligence in the PDS.
7. If the Body mass index of more than half the members of a community drops from the minimum required level (of 18.5 for an individual) and government does not intervene to prevent a further decline and /or in fact if the policies of the government result, directly or indirectly, in creating a situation of further reducing the BMI of individual members of the community it would constitute an act of genocide.
8. In a population with existing famine-like conditions (defined by WHO as a situation when more than one-third adults have a BMI below the accepted cut- off level for normal of 18.5), if any policy that can be predicted to cause a loss of livelihood and increase in food deficits is adopted by a government, it would constitute an act of genocide. Government shall include both the state and central government.

Workshop on RTI in Implementation of Food Security and Employment Schemes

1. **Section 4 of RTI Act:** (suo moto provisions and what it entails)

In the workshop, a consensus was made that if the following things are incorporated and kept in public domain under section 4, most of the issues could be tackled with less effort.

Public Distribution System

- a) Job chart, Roles, functions, responsibilities of all employees
- b) Allotment statistics – what was allotted and what quantity
- c) Grievance redressal system and procedure
- d) Supreme court orders
- e) PDS control order
- f) Details of shopkeeper ,Name, License of shop keeper, his job card, terms and conditions of license, location of the shop, and timings
- g) Gram samples with certified FCI labels
- h) Vigilance committee- Names of members and minutes of last meeting
- i) Registers – distribution, stock, sales and unit
- j) Supply inspector's inspection report.
- k) Procedure of getting cards
- l) Number of APL,BPL and antyodaya families and respective entitlements
- m) Amount that dealer gets in commission
- n) Rules of the shop

Mid Day Meal

- a) Menu
- b) Number of children registered
- c) Daily allotment

- d) Inspection details of all records and registers, quantity and quality
- e) Minutes of parents meeting

MG NREGA

- a) All documents, job cards, social audits reports, muster rolls, payment advice, property register, estimates, agreements and expenditure details.
 - a. Muster rolls, payment advice, to be displayed as certified photocopies on panchayat notice boards
 - b. Expenditure details to be painted on transparency walls
- b) Listing of projects that are underway with sanctioned amount for labour and materials expenses.
- c) Vigilance committee to include selection process, and names of members
- d) Gram sabha – minutes of the meetings as well as resolutions passed for selection of committees, preparing MGNREGA action plan
- e) Facilities at worksite :- water, shade, first aid, children care

Integrated Child Development Scheme

- a) People can ask for an anganwadi if there are 40 children in an area and there is no functional anganwadi.
- b) Facilities at the anganwadi: - stock, nutrition for children and pregnant women, Medicine, maternity and related and toys.
- c) Registers which maintain all details
- d) For children and pregnant women – quantity and quality per day as per the national health and nutrition norms with reference to specific government approved policies.
- e) Role of community with details of modes of public participation available in implementation and monitoring
- f) Monitoring committee details including selection process/criteria and list of members
- g) Mobile anganwadis details of access frequency, date and facilities provided

Janani Suraksha Yojana

- a) ANM's and government doctors details
- b) What are awareness programs
- c) How many women have attended and how many have received benefits in a chart.
- d) PHC doctors time and schedule (display 24 X 7 timings)
- e) Stock register of medicines
- f) Stock storage register
- g) Display all facilities under the scheme- use of transparency boards

Pensions

- a) How many people in a panchayat are above 60 years of age- display boards with lists (updated on a regular basis) as well as lists to be made available for inspection.
 - b) List of widows to be displayed on boards and updated on a regular basis; as well as lists to be made available for inspection
 - c) Records on display as well as records/documents to be made available for inspection
 - d) Monthly payment- Records (through bank P.O) to be displayed as certified photocopies on panchayat notice boards and updated on a regular basis; as well as lists to be made available for inspection.
2. Resolves that it condemns threats to the activists in form of verbal threats, beating up activists and even murder and demands that Governments at all levels ensure an intimidation free atmosphere so that people can access information easily. It also demands urgent criminal action against those who threatened / attacked / murdered activists who have been using the RTI Act.

3. Ensuring that action be taken against officials who ask more fees for information
4. Provision of Late fees at commissioner level

Workshop on Vulnerable Groups

1. Universal, non-means tested, non-contributory pension must be provided for elderly above 60 years of age.
2. Universal, non-means tested, non-contributory pension must be provided for the disabled
3. Universal, non-means tested, non-contributory pension must be provided for HIV+ people
4. The pension amount should be increased to meet all needs for one month. The current amount of Rs. 200 is too little even meet basic needs like food, water, clothing, housing, medical costs etc. pensions must be uprated by the wholesale price index (WPI) on an annual basis.
5. UN definition of disability should be adopted in defining disability in India.
6. Reservation must be given in NREGA for disabled persons, transgender people and elderly
7. Ration cards must be issued to all transgender people
8. If rights are universal then entitlements should also be universal. For entitlements should be defined for an individual and not household. 'Household' as the basis for entitlements is discriminatory and inappropriate to address the intra-household inequities
9. Identity cards must be issued to all transgender people and their access to government schemes guaranteed.
10. Ration cards must be issued to all sex workers
11. Persons with chronic/debilitating illness such as leprosy, HIV/AIDS must be included in the AAY category and given all its benefits.
12. Tribes whose population is decreasing should be included in Antyodaya and given free grains.
13. Ration cards must be issued to all migrant Dalits and adivasis who come to urban areas
14. Caste certificate should be made available easily
15. All excluded categories including the SC, ST and minorities must be given their rights and efforts for their reintegration must be made.

Workshop on Urban Food Security Issues

1. Guarantee for rights to livelihood should be given/ extended to all urban-dwellers.
2. In cases of forced eviction, migration and disaster situations, right to livelihood to slum-dwellers should be upheld
3. There should be right to shelter for all urban poor and homeless.
4. Participating organizations should come together to form a platform to carry on the struggle for the rights of the urban poor.
5. It was suggested that the Right to Food Campaign should focus more (at least 30% of efforts) on urban issues because 30% of poor people in our country live in urban areas.

Workshop on Distress Migration

1. **Provide Compulsory Social Security Number to Migrant Workers forthwith:** One important source of most of the problems of the migrant labour relate to their 'invisibility' in the eyes of administration, civil society and workers organisations. A mechanism should be immediately put in place to register the workers and provide them unique social security numbers at the place of

destination. Each registered worker be given photo Identity guards and passbooks wherein all the relevant details of worker and the employer/s should be entered. In this context efforts being made by the labour department of Bihar government may be explored. Since most of the vulnerable groups of migrant labour originate from the areas of PESA, such a scheme of registration, issuance of I-cards and Passbooks must be taken up by Union Labour ministry in consultation with tribal ministry in these areas immediately. The I-Cards should be smart cards and these cards should form the basis of access to basic services at both the place of source and destination as well. Employers must be bound to share information about hiring migrants with the labour department.

2. **Ensure PDS facility at destination:** The process of seasonal migration robs the poor migrants of their access to PDS. With the loss of access to PDS right to food security is lost. Ration to each Migrant Labour/Family at workplace must be ensured through Public Distribution System at AAY rates.
3. **Ensure Child Rights:** The innocent children are the worst sufferers of the process of seasonal migration as they lose their right to play, education and development. Depriving children access to ICDS, MDM, education is gross violation of child rights which cannot be accepted. The enforcement of the rights is the responsibility of the state. Access to ICDS and free admission and education to the children of migrant labour in residential schools including private and special schools like Sainik Schools and Kendriya Vidyalaya must be ensured on priority basis by the government. In case of migrant labour the age of the child should be 18 years.
4. **Make Employment Guarantee Universal:** The role of National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes in improving conditions of workers is well appreciated. The employment guarantee therefore should be made universal to be applicable to all the workers individually, migrant or native, desiring work both in rural or urban areas for two hundred days at least. To begin with this could be started in identified LCA and PESA areas. This would effectively control forced migration and attendant problems.
5. **Provide Universal Social Security:** There must be universal provision of Maternity Benefits, Health Benefits and Social Security (Old Age Pension; Disability allowance) so as to cover migrant labour.
6. **Seasonal Migrant Labour related data should be gathered by Census and NSSO for a realistic estimate:** Currently no authentic and proper information is available about the seasonal migrants. The Census and NSSO should gather information about seasonal migration more thoroughly and systematically so as to develop a proper understanding about the depth and spread of the seasonal migration as well as their conditions of work and living. Due to lack of information there is not appreciation of the concerns of the migrant labour at policy and programme levels. NSSO may be asked to undertake a special survey for the purpose.
7. Child migrants must be ensured proper hostels to reside in their home villages along with provision for education, i.e. guaranteed under Article 21 A of the Constitution.
8. Inter-state coordination cell should be formulated to deal with social security issues of these emigrants, which will include talking severe health diseases like HIV/AIDS etc
9. Railways should come out with special trains to facilitate voluntary migration
10. The government in North Eastern states should put an end to the ethnic conflict in the areas and its biased approach towards some specific groups.
11. The family members of migrants who are left behind need to be covered under all food rights entitlements and the social security program on priority and must be protected from hunger and starvation.
12. Immediate revision if inter-state Migrant Workers Act, 1979 should be done with adequate provision for protection of migrants' rights and penal provisions for the offenders.

13. Special program should be envisaged to provide care and support to the migrants affected by HIV-AIDS.
14. To safe guard women migrants special provisions need to be made.

Workshop on Dalit Issues

1. ICDS centres, primary/middle schools, PDS shops, health sub-centres must be located in Dalit habitations - ensuring community participation where the ownership and management is given to Dalits.

Public Distribution System

2. Exclusive ration shops should be established in SC/ST hamlets.
3. There must be special procedures to set up and monitor ration shops in all high atrocity prone districts
4. Financial support/subsidies must be provided to SC/STs to set up PDS shops and SC/ST entrepreneurs/dealers must be promoted in the network of PDS shops
5. Vigilance Committee must issue monthly certificate of confirmation of delivery of allocated food grains to the SC/ST communities.
6. Exclusive redressal mechanism for grievances of SC/ST community must be established
7. There must be special provisions for migrant labourers to access PDS at work sites
8. Allocation of foodgrains through PDS to Dalit families must be doubled (70kgs) keeping in view their higher calories requirement.
9. All Dalit families should be given BPL cards until the universalisation of PDS is achieved, to ensure the benefits of all social security schemes to Dalits. In case of universalisation, Dalit families may be given a separate identity card to ensure prioritized access to all social security schemes.

ICDS – Integrated Child Development Scheme

10. ICDS centres should be set up in all SC/ST hamlets.
11. SC/STs must be given priority in appointment of workers and helpers at anganwadis
12. A monitoring framework to check discrimination of SC/ST children in implementation ICDS must be set up
13. Local food preferences / preparations must be encouraged to be served to children in anganwadi centres

Mid-day meal scheme

14. SC/STs must be given priority in appointment of cooks and helpers in schools
15. A procedure to monitor and check discrimination in schools must be built
16. An institutional mechanism to monitor implementation of mid day meal scheme must be developed
17. Special consideration must be given to nutritional needs of students in SC/ST hostels
18. Local food preferences / preparations must be encouraged in the mid-day meals

Access to land and livelihood

19. A commission to study the status of land holdings among Dalits must be appointed.
20. Immediate distribution of barren and ceiling surplus land amongst the landless Dalit families must be carried out. Land titles should be given in the name of Dalit women.

21. A comprehensive SC & ST Land Protection and Development Act to protect and prevent encroachment and alienation must be enacted.
22. Possession of distributed land to Dalit must be ensured by the local administration.
23. Support must be provided for improving the quality of distributed land and provision of other facilities to make cultivation viable on it.
24. Distribution of joint land pattas in Dalit families to ensure their food security.
25. Common Property Resources must be revived to ensure livelihood and food security of Dalit communities who are dependent on it.
26. All members of the Dalit families willing to work in NREGA should get employment to ensure their livelihood. The number of days of employment should also be increased to 365 days in NREGA.

Policy and Implementation Recommendations

27. To counter the discrimination being faced by Dalit in terms of access/utilization of benefits of various food security schemes, proceedings must be initiated against officials under section 4 of SC/ST (POA) Act for willful negligence in preventing / not implementing Supreme Court orders in land cases as well as the concerned officials should be convicted under SC ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
28. Dalit communities across religions must be identified to ensure access of food security scheme.
29. An “Anti-Discrimination Bill” must be enacted so that complaints of discrimination can be legally addressed.
30. Government officials must be given orientation and be sensitised on Dalit issues, so that they are non-discriminatory in delivery of services like ICDS, health care, NREGA etc. Authorities must ensure access to food during social boycotts, atrocities and vigilance committee should monitor
31. Special Initiatives should be taken by the Right to Food Campaign to stop bonded labour system and manual scavenging and to explore alternative livelihood provision to support them.
32. Discrimination in access to schemes is a problem of attitudinal change which requires greater fight to establish the dignity of Dalits. Therefore grassroots initiative should widen their agenda to fight the prevalent biases against Dalits in society at large.
33. There are Dalits within Dalits and the campaign should take into account the discriminations and divisions (such as regional disparities, disabilities, age, women headed households within Dalits etc.) that are surfacing within the Dalit category itself, to prevent the cornering of benefits by the creamy layer of Dalits.

Workshop on Tribal Exclusion

1. The identity of the people should be considered as being indigenous people and their identity must be protected.
2. Land acquisition act should be resisted in all parts of the country to save the land of the tribal people.
3. PESA and Forest Rights Act should be implemented to the hilt in order to safeguard the existence of Tribals. There should be a review of all MOUs and projects which is taking away Tribal land.
4. Schemes related to food and livelihood should be designed and implemented by giving special consideration to the special needs of tribal people and their practices. For this purpose in-depth study of tribal practices must be carried out.
5. Tribes identified as PTGs in one state must be considered to be PTGs in all states. Similarly those communities that are identified as Scheduled Tribe in one State ought to be considered as STs in other States as well.

6. All social sector schemes (food, health, work, social security) should be expanded to all tribals in the country and there should be no division of the tribals into APL and BPL.
7. All Tribals should be considered as beneficiaries under the AAY.

Workshop on PDS

1. The Public Distribution System must be universal and the State must guarantee, by law, subsidized food grains to all the citizens of this country. Citizens who are vulnerable must get additional benefits under Antodaya. This is a non-negotiable for the RTF Campaign.
2. Every family should get 50kgs of foodgrains. All entitlements must be on an individual basis (10 kgs per month for every adult member in the family) even if one ration card is issued for the whole family. Ration cards must be in the name of the women.
3. Food grains should be made available and distributed according to local production and according to local food habits and preference of the local state. Fortified flour should not replace wheat in the PDS. Nutritious millets should be made part of food grains.
4. Apart from rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene, other items like pulses and edible oil should be made available through PDS, as is being done in some states.
5. All entitlements within the PDS should be available to all individuals irrespective of their location and migrant workers, especially inter-state migrant workers should be able to draw all their rations at any place, irrespective of where their ration cards were issued.
6. Technology can play a potentially important role in the management of the PDS and it must be harnessed appropriately to improve the efficiency of the PDS. End-to-end computerization of the entire PDS network from procurement by farmers to collection by the household should be mandatory.
7. Government must make full disclosures online, and through other means, of lists of people identified for benefits under the PDS, movement of trucks, redressal of complaints, allocation and off-take details. However, all technology must be pro-poor, non-exclusionary and non-discriminatory. Newer technologies should be piloted first, with proper oversight of civil society, including the RTF Campaign, before it is universally applied so as to ensure that they conform to the a broader understanding of a human rights framework.
8. Grievance redressal systems should be effective, transparent and monitored closely. Toll-free help-lines and administrative redressal through existing mechanisms should be strengthened.
9. All Fair Price Shops should be de-privatized, and should be run with the help of public bodies including panchayats, women's groups, Credit Co-operatives, and other appropriate village level institutions.

Workshop on NREGS

1. A national convention must be held on NREGA, in the context of:
 - Government of India using section 6(1) of the NREGA with effect from 1.1.2009
 - The various problems in implementing the NREGA being faced across the country particularly in allocation of work, non payment of wages, delayed payment of wages, non payment of unemployment allowance and the suppressing of democratic rights of workers and their organizations who are pressing their demands under the NREGA, particularly in the course of social audit and raising issues of corruption.

Workshop on Implementation and Governance issues

1. Universalisation of PDS is critical to improve the implementation of the PDS.
2. The Government should fully implement section 4(1)B of RTI Act and publicise the entitlements, grievance redressal mechanisms for various schemes through mass media immediately.
3. For ensuring transparency, list of BPL and other card holders to be displayed at public areas of the village. Also mass media must be used.
4. A toll free number and a website of the food related schemes with updates should be set up to give information being sought and provisions should be made to take oral complaints on the implementation of the scheme. These can only be effective if the implementing authorities are bound to give an action taken report within a period of 2 weeks.
5. There should be time bound action taken (cancellation of licenses, enquiry/ suspension) on the PDS shop outlet franchises and the concerned officials where there are large scale complaints from people on the implementation of the scheme.
6. Compensation should also be paid to complainants where entitlements were denied. The compensation could be by way of grain or equivalent money (based on current market prices) for the amount of entitlements denied up to a year.
7. Fair price shops should be operated by state government.
8. Introduction of any new systems/ implementation mechanisms such as coupon systems introduced in the PDS in Bihar need to be done in pilots and monitored closely since they had no impact on leakages but were being used to violate the right to food.
9. Public hearings must be held on a monthly/ quarterly basis at block, district and state level for reviewing food related schemes and convergence between different departments need to be made mandatory.
10. There should be an independent monitoring and grievance redressal mechanism at village, block, district, state and national level with statutory powers or powers to delegate appropriate state authorities to take action. Currently, the redressal mechanism is based in the same mechanism and hence little punitive action is taken on duty bearers.
11. Regular assessment of quality of food grains, Atta and rations being supplied to PDS, Anganwadis and MDMS needs to be done to meet FDA standards. FCI and SFC should be made accountable to ensure good-quality grain.
12. Increase the number of flying squads for enquiries, investigation at the district level.
13. Multiple modes of Delivery: Different areas / populations require different mechanisms to access PDS, in addition to ration shops:
 - Mobile shops for migrant workers, temporary sites of work such as salt pans, brick kilns, estuarine fishers, nomadic pastoral communities.
 - Option of taking three month stock of grains together (Nasik) model.
 - Local PDS system (DDS model)
 - Linking of PDS shops with NREGS accounts to enable people to lift grain on credit.
14. To root out corruption and pilferage in PDS DM and concerned officials should be made accountable. In case they are found guilty they should be panelized and penalty amount should be deducted and distributed among beneficiaries.

15. Special court should be established to address the cases related with malnutrition and hunger. It should have power to coordinate and review ongoing food related schemes.
16. The state government should constitute vigilance committees composed of beneficiaries in all the villages to monitor the functioning of food related schemes. Documents and other related papers should be made available to the committee.
 - Dates of offtake of grains by dealers should be fixed and announced in every village. Distribution date should also be fixed and displayed at public place in every village.
 - The enforcement wing and anti-hoarding cell must be strengthened with a member from judiciary.
 - Ration dealers should provide ration in instalments if it is demanded by beneficiary.
 - The different entitlements to different categories of people with prescribed rates, telephone no. and address for lodging complaints should be written on each ration card.