

Direct Interventions Against Hunger

A Right to Food

The Wider Relevance of India's Experience



IF YOU THINK MID DAY MEALS ARE A WASTE OF RESOURCES?
YOU ARE NOT ALONE!
BUT I INVITE YOU TO THINK AGAIN...

Hunger and Malnutrition: Key Trends

- **Nearly 2/3 of the world's hungry people live in the Asia and the Pacific (FAO)**
- **More than 70% of the world's underweight children live in just 10 countries, with more than 50% located in South Asia alone (UNICEF)**
- **South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa have the highest hunger levels (IFPRI)**
- **Malnutrition—an NCD closely interlinked with infectious diseases**

The pressing concern of access in South Asia

- Aggregate food availability hides distribution issues, especially **food availability among the poor**
- **Hunger trends are alarming**, despite gains in poverty reduction
- **Malnutrition** seen as a largely rural issue, but increasingly **becoming an urban problem**

Some policy responses for access

- **Food-for-work programmes that target vulnerable populations**
 - Bangladesh
- **PDS to manage available foodgrains through procurement and distribution**
 - China: manage food scarcity, grain prices, no special poverty targeting
 - India: direct grain to disadvantaged groups, control prices
- **Mid-day meals – today's focus**
 - Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka

From a state to the country

The case of India



Argument

- Nutritional deprivation overlaps with material poverty, but is quite distinct – needs to be separately addressed
- Developed countries also re-discovering this, most recent being Scotland 2006-07
- Example of India--TN since 1982 – feeding at preschool and school levels (self-targeting, free, nutritious, publicly visible) and expansion nationally
- The experience – potential enormous but benefits not automatic
- Costs, financing – fiscal implications
- Messages



Consider our meetings: which get better participation?

With or without refreshments?



Relevance of India: a state is like a country



- **India – population 1.1 billion in 28 states/UTs**
 - **More like 25 countries**
- **Population of individual states in India compares with country populations**
 - **Andhra Pradesh 76 m; Tamil Nadu 62 m**
 - **Philippines 88 m; RoK 48 m**
 - **Nepal 28 m; Malaysia 24 m; Sri Lanka 20 m**



Extreme contrasts: India shining...

- High savings, high investment -
- FDI growing
- Corporate entrepreneurial stories plenty – world class
- High stock of human capital - can unshackle country's strengths

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_7740

