

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation Announces #ZeroHungerHaryana Campaign

Concerned about India's falling rank on the Global Hunger Index, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation's Haryana chapter is to launch a campaign against hunger.

GURGAON, HARYANA, INDIA, October 30, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The recently announced Global Hunger Index (GHI-2017) is indeed an alarm bell for India. The country ranked 97 in GHI-2016 but has slipped to 100 this year. Concerned about the declining rank, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Haryana Chapter (www.ifrfharyana.org), has decided to launch an extensive campaign to fight hunger.

As per Haryana government's Vision 2030 Document, released recently by chief minister ML Khattar, hunger

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eradication from the state is one of its foremost goals. In keeping with the state government's vision, the foundation is to launch the campaign #ZeroHungerHaryana. The campaign aims at eradicating hunger from the state of Haryana. The vision is to make it India's first state to be free of hunger.



GHI index has different parameters like under-nourishment (insufficient food or calorie intake), child wasting, child stunting and child mortality. It's all about a complete, nutritious meal."

Dhananjay Krishna Das

The campaign will bring together the government, corporate houses, MNCs, startups, celebrities, activists, and volunteers in support of the cause. United with the mission to eradicate hunger, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation Haryana will work to enhance its kitchen capacity and reach so as to provide nutritious meals to more and more people.

Talking about the hunger index, <u>Dhananjay</u> Krishna Das, Vice Chairman, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Haryana said, "GHI measures hunger not as lack of food but in terms of nutrition. The index has different parameters like under-

nourishment (insufficient food or calorie intake), child wasting, child stunting and child mortality. We should not misinterpret the fall in rank as rise in starvation. It's all about a complete, nutritious meal. We will do all that we can with our given resources to help beat hunger in the state."

The food distribution system has improved and poverty is on the decline. But studies show that food subsidy and monetary benefits don't reflect in nutrition measured by per capita calorie intake, per capita protein intake, and per capita fat intake. There is a huge population that keeps complete nutrition on least priority and sticks to eating only to kill hunger. That's one reason why direct benefit

transfers are not recommended as a replacement of meal programs.

The war against malnutrition and hunger has to be fought on multiple fronts: better governance of nutrition-focussed schemes for children and mothers, improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and better access to health services for the poor.

Growth-stalled state of Haryana

Did you know: 34% of children under 5 years of age are presently stunted (height for age), 29.4% are underweight

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(weight for age) and 21.2% are wasted (weight for height)? In last 10 years, the percentage of wasted children in Haryana has increased by 2.2% and the proportion of severely wasted children has increased from 5% to 9%.

Haryana faces a challenge given that WHO considers poor nutrition the single most important threat to world health. Malnutrition also compounds issues related to poverty, trapping individuals in its vicious cycle.

"Our vision is to ensure zero malnutrition amongst children and adequate, and safe and nutritious food for all residents of Haryana, particularly women of reproductive age, children and extravulnerable populations," added Dhananjay.

Currently, <u>IFRF</u> Haryana is serving more than 3,50,000 healthy meals every day in more than 2500 schools of Haryana under mid-day meal scheme.

About ISKCON Food Relief Foundation, Haryana

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation Haryana is a Food for Life organisation that serves more than 3.5lakh meals every single day in more than 2,500 schools through its 4 state-of-the-art kitchens across Haryana. The free of charge meals are provided to children under Mid-Day Meal scheme. The foundation serves hot and fresh meals, prepared with the highest standards of hygiene and quality ingredients that meet the nutritional requirements of growing children.

ISKCON Food Relief Foundation is a not-for-profit, non-religious, non-sectarian public charitable trust formed on April 23, 2004. It is registered under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950.

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