**SC OBSERVES PETITION REFERRING TO FORMULATE COMMUNITY KITCHEN**

Poverty is something which is very difficult to eradicate from a society and when it comes to a country like India, it seems like next to impossible. India has seen a growth in last few years in terms of poor section of the country. Almost around 22-24% of the Indian population is below poverty line. Due to poverty, the most prominent effect which is quite prevalent in different areas of Indian society is malnutrition.   
  
Malnutrition and hunger are mostly observed as a consequence of poverty. Lack of proper sanitation and clean water are also among the negative effects of poverty.   
  
Though hunger and malnutrition have been the prime concern in a recently filed petition before the Supreme Court.   
A lot of people are growling and lead to an end due to starvation and because of the very purpose, a Public Interest Litigation was filed by a group of social activists.   
The PIL suggested that an order must be passed to National Legal Service Authority for the formulation of schemes which administers all the plausible ways to cure or alleviate hunger related deaths in the country and requested an order to be passed to the Centre directing it to launch a community kitchen to battle malnutrition and hunger.   
The petition contended that many people including children below the age of five die due to starvation and such a condition proves out to be violative of various fundamental rights, including the right to food and life.  
  
The petition urged that "Article 21 embarks that right to life does not mean mere existence, but life with dignity and on the other hand the Centre and state governments as well as ministries in the present grim scenario have failed to fulfil their obligations for effectively providing food security in the country."  
  
The petition represented by advocates Ashima Mandla and Fuzail Ahmad Ayyub and Mandakini Singh suggested that with the growing urban development and inequalities attached to it along with the growth of slums lead to adverse health and hygiene problems resulting in a permanent food and nutrition emergency in India.

The plea moreover contended that for the interest of justice, proper hygienic and nutritious food must be available to all the people who falls below the line especially the section of children to lead a healthy and stable life. The suggested scheme to formulate the community kitchen will help in assisting the other existing governmental schemes to decrease the death rate due to hunger and malnutrition as per the petition.

**Author**

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