

“Impact of Cultural and Societal Norms on Food Loss and Waste”



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“Throwing away food is like stealing from the table of those who are poor and hungry”.

-Pope Francis



“There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of the bread”

-Mahatma Gandhi

Introduction



UNEP Food Waste Index Report 2021



United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (2015)



Third International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste September 29, 2022 (UN [Food and Agricultural Organisation](#) (FAO))



Social initiative 'Save Food Share Food' (FSSAI) to "help promote donation of surplus food and reduce food waste"

Food loss

- “A decrease in mass (dry matter) or nutritional value (quality) of food that was originally intended for human consumption”

Food waste

- “Food appropriate for human consumption being discarded, whether or not after it is kept beyond its expiry date or left to spoil”

Food wastage

- “Any food lost by deterioration or waste. Thus, the term wastage encompasses both food loss and food waste.”

Food in different religions

Hinduism

food is considered as a gift from God and should be treated respectfully.

Annadanam is Mahadanam or the greatest donation in Hindu religion and is an essential part of Sanatana Dharma tradition.

Islam

“Eat – But waste not by excess: for God does not love the wasters.”
(Qur’an, 6:141)

Christianity

"Give us each day our daily bread" (Lord's Prayer)
(Lk. 11: 3)

Food is a part of divine grace and providence.



To be continue.....

To be continue.....

Sikhism

An essential part of any Gurdwara is the Langar, or free kitchen.
(Guru's Langar)

Jainism

अन्नं न निन्द्यात्, तद्व्रतम्– Do not insult food [by wasting].

Buddhism

Buddhist rituals imbue food with sanctity; the sanctity remains in the food after it has been received by the monks. Communal eating is one means of experiencing Buddhist precepts and concepts in a direct and sensory way.



Food wastage and loss

Households/
Individuals



Social
Gatherings/
Public
Ceremony/
Festivals



Hotels/
Restaurants/
Cafeteria/
Hostels/
Canteen/
Clubs



Food wastage in social gathering

- Rural area
- Urban area

Area wise



- Infant
- Child
- Adolescence
- Young
- Adult
- Old age

Age wise



- High income group
- Middle income group
- Low income group

Income wise



Factor responsible for food wastage (households and social gatherings)

- Consumer's Attitude
- preference
- Planning issues
- Storage
- Packaging issues
- Portion sizes
- Socio-economic factors
- People take more than they can eat
- Miscalculation of invitees
- No idea of Guest's food preference
- More dishes on the menu list



<https://thehimalayantimes.com/opinion/eat-smart-save-food-feed-hungry>



Food wastage during Past and Present (Occasions/Celebrations/Festivals)

- Change of the pattern of celebration
- Expenditure on food
- Food consumption level
- Methods of food serving
- Status Symbol
- Social/ Relative Pressure
- Competition to do better
- Social networking



National Policies, Laws & Regulations regarding food wastage (social and cultural gathering)

- ❖ Rajasthan Guest Control Order and Mrityu Bhoj Act, 1960
- ❖ Rajasthan Guest Control Order (1972)
- ❖ Assam Guest Control Order (1973)
- ❖ Mizoram Guest Control Order (1987)
- ❖ The Punjab Marriage Functions (Prohibition of Ostentatious Displays and Wasteful Expenses) (REPEAL) ACT 2006



Institutional initiatives

- Feeding India

<https://www.feedingindia.org>



- Robin Hood Army

<https://robinhoodarmy.com>



- India food banking network

<https://www.indiafoodbanking.org>



- Love Food Hate Waste

<https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com>



- Foodtank: the think tank for food

<https://foodtank.com>



Take some simple steps and reduce food waste

Buy only what
you need

Store food
wisely

Understand
food labeling

Love your
leftovers

Use leftovers
creatively

Sharing is
caring



Respect food



THINK BEFORE YOU THROW !



**To Grow
Crops
Farmer
Has To
Plough
His Field.**

**From Time
to Time, the
Farmer Has
to Sprinkle
Fertilizers
and
Pesticides
on his crops.**

**When the
crop is
ready, the
farmer
has to
harvest
his crop.**

**After
harvesting,
the farmer
stores the
grains in
the
warehouse
s.**

**.....and
you
easily
THROW
it?!!**

Conclusion

A large quantity of food is wasted and are being thrown away around the World, While a child dies every 5 seconds as a result of hunger.

“Buy less, use all, waste nothing.”

