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**Name of Department:** Political Science

**Topic of Research:** “A Study of Women Empowerment through National Food Security Act: A Case Study of Lakhimpur Kheri and Meerut districts of Uttar Pradesh”

### **Findings**

The Research has explored the outreach of National Food Security Act (2013) in achieving food-security for the women. It is established through the research that the law is efficacious in addressing multiple issues intertwined in the matrix of food-insecurity which range from food-availability to food-accessibility and further from food safety to food nutrition. The law has encapsulated three segments which are the Public Distribution System (PDS), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Program targeting three types of people the BPL, Pregnant & Lactating Mothers and School going children. It is now beyond contestation that the objective of the law was not only to ensure food-security but to attain other crucial objectives too. These objectives range from nutritional health of mothers and child to infant immunization through vaccination and health of the school going children. For attainment of these objectives the law has mandated duties on public agencies to provide food and allied services at nominal costs for poor to free of costs for the children. Right to food is now alleviated from a nominal right to a fundamental human right with legal protections. The study found that the extent of ‘public-policy’ measures have drastically broadened as the state agencies are now delivering services to the beneficiaries at their home without any costs. New state interventions ameliorating the plights of starving population without any medicinal facilities is commendable. In this age of globalization, where liberal states and economies are at spur, India has created a history through the largest ever program of food-security in the world. The research through two case studies plotted in the State of Uttar Pradesh have identical findings with marginal variations and minimal criticism. The challenges of present times like the over-weight urban population who are also considered under-nutrition require different set of interventions. The one of managing massive database of beneficiaries with huge spending minimizing corruption are not easy one. India is heading successes in many of those fronts which ultimately results a more developed and healthy nation.