



DIVERSE WOMEN FOR DIVERSITY



MAHILA ANNA SWARAJ



## **Anna Swaraj. Our birth right to our food heritage and our nutrition**

**We are what we eat**

**Food is heritage, livelihood, nourishment and health.**

India has had a rich food heritage, which has protected both our planet & our health. In the last twenty years of globalization our food traditions have been destroyed by chemically grown and industrially processed, junk food, degrading our health and nutrition. Everyday policies are being made and laws are being written to privilege corporate profits above people's nourishment and health. As corporations hijack our seed, our agriculture, our food processing, our retail, they are destroying our livelihoods and the health of all citizens.

## **Food must not serve corporate greed Food is a need. That is Anna Swaraj**

Most people of India are engaged in growing food, processing food, providing food to their community and their families, as small farmers, as artisanal processors, as small and tiny retailers, as hawkers and street vendors, as mothers and helpers. Our right to livelihoods with dignity and freedom is connected to our food heritage.

## **Our birth right to our livelihoods, to grow process and eat the food we need That is Anna Swaraj**

Unfair trade rules and pseudo-safety laws that dump junk food, fake food, GMOs, synthetic and artificial food on India are based on unjust and unscientific laws of extraction, exploitation, domination and re colonisation of India. Once again we are being exploited by corporate giants who mostly serve the interest of the global North

## **As free citizens of India we will not be exploited through food imperialism. That is Anna Swaraj**

We have the responsibility to protect the food diversity that Mother Earth has made available to us,. Our food legacy transmitted through generations is the myriad ways of processing and preparing food

**Nothing that threatens our food heritage, eco systems, policies and laws should be allowed. That is Anna Swaraj**

The new FSSAI Labeling and Display Regulations 2018 robs us of our freedom to produce, process, distribute and eat good food according to our own food cultures. They are laws for forcing us to eat junk food, fake food, chemically contaminated industrial food and GMOs. The proposed labelling law allows companies to sell food with 5% GMO's as GMO free, when the world standard is only 1%. In addition , while having made a commitment in the Supreme court on GMO labeling issues , FSSAI has allowed illegal GMO food imports to flood India's market . We cannot allow the devastation of our health of billions of Indians

**Gandhi's gift of Satyagraha is the fight for the greater good Today it is for Anna Swaraj**

GMO seeds have driven our cotton farmers to debt and suicide. Roundup Ready GMO's are spreading cancer and kidney failure.Total violation of our Biosafety Laws , plus laws brought in without adequate and conclusive study will aggravate, the health crises and the unemployment crises that India already faces. We cannot allow global corporations to use our governments and institutions mandated to protect the interests of India and Indians to force genetically modified food, chemically supplemented nutrition ill health and unemployment on us.

**We have a birth right on the health of this country That is Anna Swaraj**

Based on 6000 year old legacy of food traditions and rich knowledge women have shaped the rules of quality, safety, nutrition, health. Our food systems created living economies around food where farmers, processors, retailers, join hands in self organised food communities. Today that is being totally undermined

**Food systems for the health of community by the community. That is Anna Swaraj.**

Launched on Quit India 9<sup>th</sup> of August at Kirti Mandap, Gandhi Smriti,  
Tees January Marg by Dr Mohini Giri, Patron of Mahila Anna Swaraj  
Movement; Founder, Guild For Service.