

Street Food Vending in Guwahati: A Survival Strategy

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ABSTRACT Street foods are ubiquitous on urban streets. Like most informal sector activities food vending has been ignored by economic planners despite its importance in providing employment and cheap service. This paper incorporates results of the study of street food vending in Guwahati City by anthropological methods in terms of vendor status, clientele, etc. The findings reveal that vending is a source of sustenance for urban poor, Secondly, though termed as illegal, it generates revenue for municipalities. Finally, it provides a necessary service breaking societal barriers. This paper outlines measures for support and improvement of street food sector including legitimizing this activity.