NCERT Class 9 Economics

Chapter 4: Food Security in India

Food Security = Buffer Stock + PDS

- Availability of food: Domestic Production, Imports & previous stock
- Accessibility: Within reach of every person.
- Affordability: Ample money to buy sufficient, safe and nutritious food for one's needs

Why food security?

- For BPL families
- Natural Disaster Earthquake, Drought, Flood, Tsunami
- Shortage of Food \rightarrow Price $\uparrow \rightarrow \downarrow$ Affordability $\rightarrow \uparrow$ Starvation
- Famine: Deaths by starvation & epidemics by contaminated water
- 1942 Devastating famine of West Bengal
- Famine affected areas: Kalahandi and Kashipur in Orissa, Baran district of Rajasthan, Palamau district of Jharkhand

How are Food Insecure?

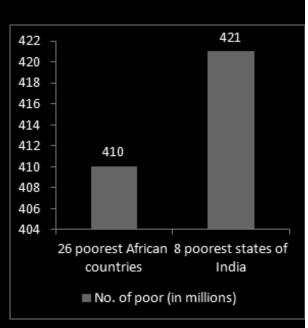
- Landless people with little or no land to depend upon
- Traditional artisans
- Providers of traditional services
- Petty self-employed workers
- Destitute including beggars
- Ill-paid occupation
- Casual Labour
- Social Composition SC, ST, sections of OBCs
- Natural Disasters
- Pregnant & nursing mothers
- Children under age of 5 years

Incidences

- High incidence of poverty, tribal and remote areas
- Regions more prone to natural disasters
- Uttar Pradesh (E & SE), Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra - largest number of food insecure people in India

Hunger

- Expression of poverty
- Chronic: inadequate diet in terms of quantity and quality – low income group
- Seasonal: food growing and harvesting cycles – common in rural (seasonal variation) & urban (causal labour)

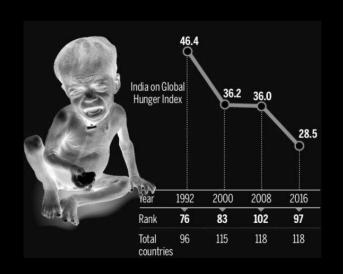


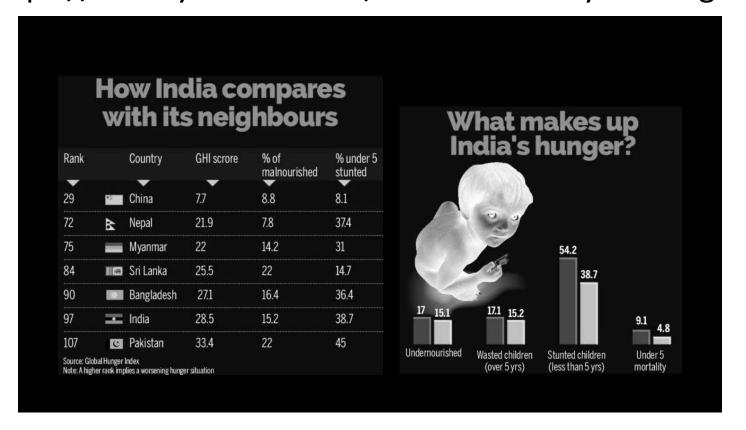
Global Hunger Index

- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) calculates GHI scores
 Components
- Undernourishment: Proportion of undernourished as percent of the population (reflect population with insufficient caloric intake)
- Child wasting: Proportion of children under 5 years who suffer from wasting (low weight for their height, reflect acute undernutrition)
- Child stunting: Proportion of children under 5 years who suffer from stunting (low height for their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition)
- Child mortality: the mortality rate of children under the age of five
- 2015 revision: Replaces child underweight as two indicators of child under-nutrition as child wasting and child stunting

GHI - India

- 2015: India ranked 97 out of 118 nations
- Below India: Extremely poor African countries - Niger, Chad, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone & 2 India's neighbours: Afghanistan and Pakistan
- Above India: Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and China

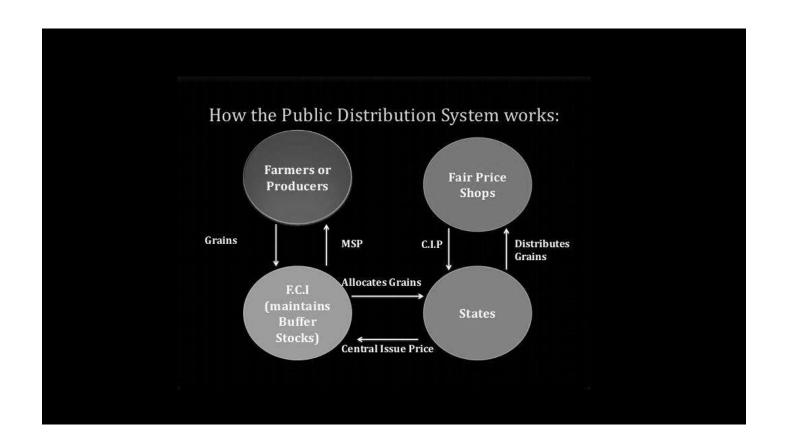


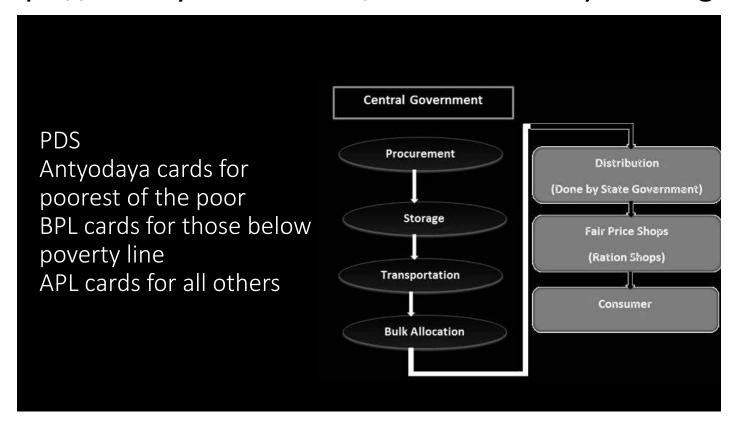


Definitions

- Hunger: Distress associated with lack of food. FAO defines food deprivation, or undernourishment, as the consumption of food that is not sufficient to provide the minimum amount of dietary energy that each individual requires to live a healthy and productive life, given his or her sex, age, stature and physical activity level.
- Undernutrition: Beyond calories and signifies deficiencies in any or all
 of the following: energy, protein, or essential vitamins and minerals.
 Due to inadequate intake of food in terms of either quantity or quality,
 poor utilization of nutrients due to infections or other illnesses, or a
 combination of these factors.
- *Malnutrition*: Undernutrition + overnutrition (problems of unbalanced diets, too many calories, with or without low intake of micronutrient-rich foods).

- India is aiming at Self-sufficiency in Foodgrains since Independence
- Green revolution Wheat followed by rice, highest in Punjab & Haryana
- Buffer Stock: Stock of foodgrains, namely wheat and rice procured by the government through Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- Minimum Support Price: Farmers are paid a pre-announced price for their crops, declared before sowing season – incentive
- Issue Price: Distribute foodgrains in the deficit areas and among the poorer strata of society at a price lower than the market price





Rationing in India

- Started in 1940s
- Acute shortage in 1960s
- 1970s poverty by NSSO
- three important food
- Public Distribution System (PDS) for food grains
- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) 1975
- Food-for-Work (FFW) introduced in 1977–78
- Poverty Alleviation Programs (PAPs) mostly in rural areas
- National Food for Work Program November 14, 2004 in 150 most backward districts of the country
- Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) poorest of poor
- Annapurna Scheme (APS) 2000 indigent senior citizens

Revamped & targeted PDS

Name of scheme	Year of Introduction	Coverage target group	Latest volume	Issue price (Rs per kg.)
PDS	Up to 1992	Universal	-	W-2.34 R-2.89
RPDS	1992	Backward blocks	20 kg of food grains	W-2.80 R-3.77
TPDS	1997	Poor and non-poor	35 kg of food grains	BPL – W-2.50 R-3.50 APL-W-4.50 R-7.00
AAY	2000	Poorest of the poor	35 kg of food grains	W-2.00 R-3.00
APS	2000	Indigent senior citizens	10 kg of food grains	Free

PDS benefits

- Stabilizes price
- Food at affordable price
- Price with poor households
- Income security to farmers
- Supply from surplus to deficit areas

PDS - Limitations

- Instances of hunger
- Pest infestation
- Deterioration in quality
- High storage cost
- Higher food stock than required
- Diversion of grains to open market
- Poor quality