



Social Studies

Class 9th (Economics)

Chapter 4: Food Security in India



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Exercise

Que 1. How is food security ensured in India?

Ans: Food security in India is ensured by buffer stock and public distribution system.

Que 2. Which are the people more prone to food insecurity?

Ans: Landless farmers, traditional artisans, providers of traditional services, destitute and beggars are more prone to food insecurity.

Que 3. Which states are more food insecure in India?

Ans: Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, parts of Madhya Pradesh.

Que 4. Do you believe that green revolution has made India self-sufficient in food grains? How?

Ans: Yes, I believe that the Green Revolution has made India self-sufficient in food grains. With the Green Revolution, food grain production in the country increased in a revolutionary manner. Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh produced record breaking production of wheat. While West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh made a significant increase in the production of rice. In this way, the Green Revolution contributed a lot in becoming self-sufficient in food.

Que 5. A section of people in India are still without food. Explain?

Ans: Landless farmers, traditional artisans, traditional service providers, menial workers and the destitute and beggars are still without food in India.

Que 6. What happens to the supply of food when there is a disaster or a calamity?

Ans:

1. Due to a natural calamity like drought, total production of foodgrains decreases.
2. It creates a shortage of food in the affected areas.
3. Due to shortage of food, the prices go up.
4. At the high prices, some people cannot afford to buy food.
5. If such calamity happens in a very wide spread area or is stretched over a longer time period, it may cause a situation of starvation.
6. A massive starvation might take a turn of famine.

Que 7. Differentiate between seasonal hunger and chronic hunger?

Ans:

Seasonal Hunger:

1. Seasonal Hunger occurs when there is not enough food in a particular season.
2. Examples of seasonal starvation are found in agricultural activities in rural areas.
3. This type of hunger exists when a person is unable to get work for the entire year.

Chronic starvation :

1. Chronic hunger is a consequence of diets persistently inadequate in terms of quantity and quality.
2. Poor people suffer from chronic hunger because of their very low income.
3. They are not even able to buy food to survive.

Que 8. What has our government done to provide food security to the poor? Discuss any two schemes launched by the government?

Ans:

1. Antyodaya Anna Yojana :- It was started in 2002. This scheme was started for the poorest of the poor. Under this, 35 kg Grain is available at the rate of two rupees wheat and three rupees rice per kg. The operation of this scheme was linked to the existing network of the Public Distribution System.
2. Annapurna Yojana:- It was started in 2000. This scheme was launched for Indigent senior citizens. Under this, 10 kg Food is available absolutely free of cost. The operation of this scheme was also linked to the existing network of the Public Distribution System.

Que 9. Why is buffer stock created by the government?

Ans: The government creates buffer stock for the following reasons.

1. To distribute in areas with shortage of grains.
2. To distribute food grains to the poor sections of the society at a low price.
3. To meet the shortage of food grains in times of calamity.

Que 10. Write notes on:

- (a) Minimum support price**
- (b) Buffer stock**
- (c) Issue price**
- (d) Fair price shops**

Ans:

- (a) Minimum Support Price: Farmers are given pre-announced prices for their crops. This is called the minimum support price.
- (b) Buffer stock: The government purchases surplus food grains from farmers through the Food Corporation of India and keeps them in stores. This is called buffer stock.
- (c) Issue price: The government distributes food grains to the poor sections of the society at a price less than the market price. This price is called the issue price.
- (d) Fair price shops: Under the public distribution system, there are about 5.5 lakh ration shops in all areas, villages, towns and cities of the country. These shops are called fair price shops.

Que 11. What are the problems of the functioning of ration shops?

Ans: There are the following problems in the operation of ration shops:-

1. PDS dealers are found diverting the grains to open market to get better margin.
2. Selling poor quality grains at ration shops.
3. Irregular opening of the shops.

Que 12. Write a note on the role of cooperatives in providing food and related items.

Ans: The role of cooperatives in providing food and related items is as follows:-

1. Co-operative societies open low cost shops for sale of food grains to poor people.
2. 90% of ration shops in Tamil Nadu are run by cooperatives.
3. Cooperatives have set up grain banks for food security.
4. In Delhi, Mother Dairy has provided milk and vegetables at government rates.



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