



## INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: IX</b>	<b>Department: Social Science</b>	<b>Sub: ECONOMICS</b>
<b>Chapter-4</b> <b>Question Bank:4</b>	<b>Topic: Food Security in India</b>	<b>Year: 2023-24</b>

1	<p><b>What do you mean by 'food security'? How is food security ensured in India?</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <p>Food security means availability, accessibility and affordability of food to all people at all times. Food security is ensured in a country only if</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Enough food is available for all the persons</li><li>(2) All persons have the capacity to buy food of acceptable quality and</li><li>(3) There is no barrier on access to food.</li></ol>
2	<p><b>Explain the major dimensions of food security.</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <p>Food security has following dimensions: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Availability of food:</b> - It means food production within the country, food imports and the previous year's stock stored in government granaries.</li><li>• <b>Accessibility:</b> - It means food is within reach of every person.</li><li>• <b>Affordability:</b> - It implies that an individual has enough money to buy sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet one's dietary needs.</li></ul>
3	<p><b>Which are the people more prone to food insecurity?</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <p>(a) In rural areas, the people are more prone to food security are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) landless farmers</li><li>(ii) traditional artisans</li><li>(iii) self-employed workers</li><li>(v) Destitute including beggars.</li></ol> <p>(b) In urban areas, the people are more prone to food security are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Casual labourers</li><li>(ii) workers employed in low-paid occupations</li><li>(iii) workers employed in seasonal activities</li></ol> <p>(c) Food insecure people also include SCs, STs and some sections of the OBCs (lower castes among them).</p> <p>(d) A large proportion of pregnant and nursing mothers and children under the age of 5 years constitute an important segment of the food insecure population.</p> <p>(e) The people who are living in economically backward states with high incidence of poverty, tribal and remote areas, regions more prone to natural disasters etc. also fall under food insecure. In fact, the states of Uttar Pradesh (eastern and south-eastern parts), Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa,</p>

West Bengal, Chattisgarh, parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra account for largest number of food insecure people in the country.

4 **Differentiate between Chronic hunger and seasonal hunger.**

**Ans.**

Chronic Hunger	Seasonal hunger
It is caused by getting constantly food of poor quality or low in quantity	It is caused by getting constantly food of poor quality or low in quantity during a specific time of a year.
It happens because of very low income and inability to buy food even for survival.	It is related to cycles of food growing and harvesting
It exists when a person is unable to get work for the entire year	In rural areas, it is found due to the seasonal nature of agricultural activities. In urban areas, it is found mainly among the casual labourers because there is less work for casual construction labourers during the rainy season.

5 **What is buffer stock? Why buffer stock is created by the government?**

**Ans.**

- Buffer Stock is the stock of foodgrains, namely wheat and rice, procured by the government through the Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- The FCI purchases wheat and rice from the farmers in states where there is surplus production.
- The farmers are paid a pre- announced price for their crops. This price is **called Minimum Support Price (MSP)**. The MSP is declared by the government every year before the sowing season to provide incentives to farmers for raising the production of these crops.
- The purchased foodgrains are stored in granaries to distribute foodgrains in the deficit areas and among the poorer strata of the society at a price lower than the market price also known as **Issue Price**.

6 **What is Public Distribution System (PDS)?**

**Ans:**

- The food procured by the FCI is distributed through government regulated ration shops among the poorer section of the society. This is called the Public Distribution System (PDS).
- Ration shops are known as Fair Price Shops, which keep the stock of foodgrains, sugar, and kerosene.
- These items are sold to people at a price lower than the market price.
- Any family with a ration card can buy a stipulated amount of these items (e.g. 35 kg of grains, 5 litres of kerosene, 5 kgs of sugar etc.) every month from the nearby ration shop.

7 **Trace the growth of rationing system in India.**

**Ans.**

- The introduction of Rationing in India dates back to the 1940s against the backdrop of the Bengal famine.
- The rationing system was revived in the wake of an acute food shortage during the 1960s, prior to the Green Revolution.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to the report of NSSO, three important food intervention programmes were introduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Public Distribution System (PDS)</li> <li>(ii) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)</li> <li>(iii) Food-for -Work (FFW)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Several Poverty Alleviation Programmes (PAPs), mostly in rural areas, which have an explicit food component also.</li> <li>• Some of the programmes such as PDS, mid-day meals etc. are exclusively food security programmes, most of the PAPs also enhance food security.</li> <li>• Employment programmes greatly contribute to food security by increasing the income of the poor.</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Discuss the Present scenario of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India.</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Distribution System (PDS) is the most important step taken by the Government of India (GoI) towards ensuring food security.</li> <li>• In the beginning, the coverage of PDS was universal with no discrimination between the poor and the non-poor.</li> <li>• In 1992, Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was introduced to provide the benefits of PDS to remote and backward areas.</li> <li>• In 1997, (launched in 2000) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was introduced to adopt the principle of targeting the 'poor in all areas'. It was for the first time that a differential price policy was adopted for poor and non-poor.</li> <li>• In 2000, two special schemes were launched viz., Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Annapurna Scheme (APS) with special target groups of 'poorest of the poor' and 'indigent senior citizens', respectively.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>How does PDS ensures food security in India?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Discuss the advantages of PDS.</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It makes food available to consumers at affordable prices.</li> <li>• It reduces hunger and famine by supplying food from surplus regions to deficit areas.</li> <li>• It provides income security to farmers.</li> <li>• It stabilizes the price of food grains.</li> <li>• The prices have been under revision in favour of poor households</li> <li>• The minimum support price and procurement has contributed to an increase in food grain production.</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>What are the problems of the functioning of ration shops?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><b>Discuss the disadvantages of PDS.</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <p>The Public Distribution System has faced severe criticism on several grounds. The disadvantages of PDS are as follows: -</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FCI go-downs are overflowing with grains, with some grains rotting away and some being eaten by rats. The high level of buffer stocks of foodgrains is very undesirable and can be wasteful.</li> <li>• PDS dealers are sometimes found resorting to malpractices like diverting the grains to open market for more profit.</li> <li>• Dealers sell poor quality grains at ration shops.</li> <li>• They open the ration shops at irregular times.</li> <li>• Earlier every family, poor and non-poor had a ration card with a fixed quota of items such as rice, wheat, sugar etc. These were sold at the same low price to every family. But now a large number of families could buy foodgrains from the ration shops subject to a fixed quota because of the three types of cards.</li> <li>• The price for APL (Above Poverty Line) family is almost as high as open market price.</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>What is Antyodaya Anna Yojana? Mention its role in ensuring food security in the country.</b></p> <p><b>Ans:</b></p> <p>AAY was launched in December 2000. This scheme plays an important role in ensuring food security in the country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under this scheme one crore of the poorest among the BPL families covered under the targeted public distribution system were identified.</li> <li>• Twenty-five kgs of food grains were made available to each eligible family at a highly subsidized rate of ₹ 2 per kg for wheat and ₹3 per kg for rice. This quantity has been enhanced from 25 kgs to 35 kgs with effect from April 2002.</li> <li>• The scheme has been further expanded twice by additional 50 lakh BPL families in June 2003 and in August 2004.</li> <li>• With this increase, 2 crore families have been covered under the AAY.</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>Describe the role of Co-operatives in Food Security.</b></p> <p><b>Ans.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cooperatives are playing an important role in food security in India especially in the southern and western parts of the country.</li> <li>• The cooperative societies set up shops to sell low priced goods to poor people.</li> <li>• The cooperatives running in different parts of the country ensure food security to different sections of the society.</li> </ul> <p><b>For example,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Tamil Nadu, out of all fair price shops around 94% are being run by co-operatives.</li> <li>• In Delhi, Mother Dairy is making strides in provisions of milk and vegetables to the consumers at controlled rates decided by the Delhi Government.</li> <li>• In Gujarat, Amul is a co-operative in milk and milk products. It has brought about the White Revolution in the country.</li> <li>• In Maharashtra, Academy of Development Science (ADS) has facilitated a network of NGOs for setting up grain banks in different regions. The ADS Grain Bank programme is acknowledged as a successful and innovative food security intervention.</li> </ul>