### Worksheet No: 19

#### Chapter: 4 Food Security in India

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Q.No</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>What is meant by food security? Point out the three dimensions of food security. (CBSE 2012, 2015)</strong>&lt;br&gt;ANS: Food Security means availability, accessibility and affordability of food to all people at all times everywhere in the country. 1. Availability of food means food production within the country, food imports and the previous year’s stock stored in government granaries. 2. Accessibility means food is within reach of every person. 3. Affordability implies that an individual has enough money to buy sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet one’s dietary needs.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>How is food security affected during a calamity?</strong> (CBSE 2011)&lt;br&gt;ANS. 1. Due to a natural calamity, say drought, total production of food grains decreases. 2. It creates a shortage of food in the affected areas. 3. Due to shortage of food, the prices go up. At the high prices, some people cannot afford to buy food. 4. If such a calamity happens in a very wide spread area or is stretched over a longer time period, it may cause a situation of starvation. 5. A massive starvation may become a famine.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Define Famine and point out any two incidents of wide spread famine in India.</strong>&lt;br&gt;ANS.</td>
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1. A famine is characterized by widespread deaths due to starvation and epidemics caused by forced use of contaminated water or decaying food and loss of body resistance due to weakening from starvation.
2. The most devastating famine in India was the famine of Bengal 1943 which killed thirty lakh people in the province of Bengal.
3. Today there are places like Kalahandi and Kashipur in Orissa where famine-like conditions have been existing for many years.
4. Starvations deaths are also recently reported from Baran district of Rajasthan, Palamu district of Jharkand and many other remote areas.

Why do we (the government) need to ensure food security?

1. All sections of the society might be food insecure during national disaster or calamity like drought, flood, etc
2. There can be food insecurity due to poverty. Even today there are places where people die of starvation eg. Kalahandi and Kashipur in Orissa, and places in Rajasthan and Jharkand.
3. It is the responsibility of a welfare state to make food available, accessible and affordable to its people.

Who are food insecure people? (CBSE 2013)

ANS.

1. Landless people with little or no land to depend upon, traditional artisans, destitutes including beggars
2. Workers engaged in ill-paid occupations and casual labourers in urban areas.
3. The SCs, STs and some sections of the OBCs who have either poor land base or very low land productivity.
4. People affected by natural disasters who have to migrate to other areas in search of work.
5. Pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under the age of 5 years, which faces high incidence of malnutrition.

‘The social composition along with the inability to buy food also plays a role in food insecurity’. Point out such social groups that are food insecure. (CBSE 2011)

ANS.

1. The SCs, STs and some sections of the OBCs who have either poor land base or very low land productivity.
2. People affected by natural disasters who have to migrate to other areas in search of work, are also among the most food insecure people.
3. A high incidence of malnutrition prevails among (pregnant) women; this also puts the unborn baby at risk of malnutrition.
4. A large number of nursing mothers and children under the age of five years constitute an important segment of the food insecure people.
5. According to National Health and Family Survey, the number of such women and children are approximately 11 crore.

Which states are more food insecure in India?

Ans. U.P, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Examine the contribution of Green revolution towards food security in India.

ANS.
1. After independence, Indian policy makers adopted all measures to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains. India adopted a new strategy in agriculture, which resulted in Green Revolution.

2. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India officially recorded the success of Green Revolution by releasing special stamp entitled ‘Wheat Revolution’.

3. The success of wheat was later replicated in rice but this increase was disproportionate.

4. The highest rate was in Punjab and Haryana where food grain production increased from 7.23 million tones to 30.33 million tons in thirty years.

5. Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh recorded significant increase in rice production. On the other hand, Bihar, Orissa and North Eastern states continued to stagger.


Ans.

1. Buffer stock is the stalk of food grains namely wheat and rice procured by the government through Food Corporation of India (FCI).

2. 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 is called Minimum Support Price.

3. The MSP declared by the government every year provides incentive to the farmers to increase the production of the crops.

4. The buffer stock is created by the Government to distribute food grains in the deficit areas and among the poorer strata of society at a price lower than the market price also known as ‘Issue Price’.

5. This also helps solve the problem of shortage of food grains during adverse weather conditions and during the period of calamity.

10. Briefly describe the (PDS) ‘Public Distribution System’./ Examine the functioning of Ration Shops/ Fair price Shops in India. (CBSE 2015)

ANS.

1. The food procured by the FCI is distributed through government regulated ration shops among the poorer sections of the society. This is called PDS.

2. Ration shops are now present in most localities, villages, towns and cities. There are about 4.6 lakh ration shops all over the country.

3. Ration shops are known as Fair Price Shops that keep stock of food grains, sugar, kerosene oil for cooking. These are also sold at a low price than the
4. Any family with a ration card can buy a stipulated amount of these items every month from the nearby shop. (For quantity see page no. 48)
5. The ration cards are three types based on the income level of the people: (1) Antyodaya Cards for the poorest of the poor, (2) BPL Cards (3) APL cards.

11. Briefly describe the emergence of rationing system in India.

ANS.

1. The introduction of Rationing in India dates back to the 1940s during the Bengal famine, introduced during the British Raj.
2. The rationing system was reviewed and expanded to all parts of the country during the acute shortage of food grains in 1960s prior to the Green revolution.
3. In recent years many poverty alleviation programs (PAP) are a part of rationing and food security such as National Food for Work Program.
4. PDS and Mid Day meal are exclusively food security programs.
5. Government has introduced three types of ration cards as a part of targeted approach to ensure food security.


ANS.

1. NFWP was launched in 2004 in 150 most backward districts with the objective of intensifying the generation of supplementary wage employment and is open for those who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual unskilled work.
2. It is implemented in 100% centrally sponsored scheme and the food grains are provided to States free of cost.
3. The collector is the nodal officer at the district level and has the overall responsibility of planning, implementing, coordination, monitoring and supervision.
4. For 2004-05, Rs. 2,020 cr. have been allocated for the programme in addition to 20 lakh tonnes of food grains.
### 13 Discuss the current status of the public distribution system in India and its advantages.

**ANS.**

1. PDS is the most important step taken by the government of India towards ensuring food security. In the beginning the coverage of PDS was universal with no discrimination between the poor and non-poor.
2. Over the years, the policy has been revised to make it more efficient and targeted. The prices have been under revision in favour of poor households in general.
3. It is the most effective instrument of the Government policy in stabilizing prices and making food available to consumers at affordable prices.
4. It has been instrumental in averting widespread hunger and famine by supplying food from surplus regions of the country to the deficit regions.
5. The system including the minimum support price and procurement has contributed to an increase in food grain production and provided income security to farmers in certain regions.

### 14 Examine the role of ‘Antyodaya Anna Yojna’ in ensuring food security. (Write in Notebook). Page50

### 15 What are the problems in the functioning of the Public Distribution System?

**ANS.**

1. Instances of hunger are prevalent despite overflowing granaries and FCI godowns are overflowing with grains, with some rotting away and some being eaten by rats.
2. High level of buffer stock is very undesirable and can be wasteful like high carrying costs, deterioration of grain quality.
3. Increased MSP encourages farmers to produce less coarse grains, which is the staple food of the poor.
4. Average consumption of PDS grain at all India level, which is very less, also shows ineffectiveness of PDS.
5. PDS dealers are sometimes involved in malpractices like diverting the grains to open market to get better margins, etc.

### 16 ‘The Cooperatives are playing an important role in food security in India’. Point out the role of Cooperatives in food security with any four examples.

**ANS.**

1. The cooperatives set up shops to sell low priced goods to poor people. They are playing an important role in food security in India especially in the southern and western parts of the country.
2. Out of all fair price shops running in Tamil Nadu, around 94% are being run by the cooperatives.
3. In Delhi, Mother Diary is making strides in provision of milk and vegetables to the consumers at controlled rate decided by Government of Delhi.
4. Amul is another success story in milk and milk products from Gujarat.
5. In Maharashtra, ADS has facilitated a network of NGO’s for setting up grain banks in different sections of the society. ADS organizes training programmes on food security for NGO’s. Grain Banks are coming up in different parts of Maharashtra.
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<td>Examine the steps taken by the Govt. of India to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains since independence and to ensure food security in India. (CBSE 2011)</td>
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<td>1. After independence, Indian policy makers adopted all measures to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains. India adopted a new strategy in agriculture, which resulted in Green Revolution.</td>
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<td>5. In recent years many poverty alleviation programs (PAP) are a part of rationing and food security such as National Food for Work Program. PDS and Mid Day meal are exclusively food security programs.</td>
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<td>What was the declaration made by World Food Summit in 1995? What is the target period of the ‘Millennium Development Goals’?</td>
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<td>Write a note on the success of Academy of Development Science (ADS) in innovative food security intervention.</td>
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<td>Name a few schemes launched by the government to ensure food security other than PDS.</td>
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<td>How is food security affected during a calamity? (SA2 - 2011)</td>
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<td>What has our government done to provide Food Security to the poor? Explain any Five measures. (SA2 - 2011)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Give full form of NHFS. (SA 2-2015)</td>
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<td>What was the target of RPDS? (SA2-2015)</td>
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<td>Explain the reasons for some states of India to be more food insecure. (SA2-2015)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Explain the differ dimensions of food security. (SA 2-2015)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>In what ways does the buffer stock help in providing food security? (SA 2-2015)</td>
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Note: Write these questions and their answers in your note book- 21 to 27