

Unit 3

Food, Security and Nutrition

I. Choose the correct answer.

1. _____ of food is physical availability of food stocks in desired quantities, which is a function of domestic production, changes in stocks and imports.

- a) availability of food
- b) Access to food
- c) Absorption of food
- d) None.

Ans → a) availability of food

2. Buffer stock is the stock of food grains, namely wheat and rice, procured by the government through the

- a) FCI
- b) consumer co-operatives
- c) ICICI
- d) IFCI

Ans → a) FCI

3. Which is correct.

- i) HYV - High yielding Varieties
- ii) MSP - minimum support Price
- iii) PDS - Public Distribution System
- iv) FCI - Food Co-operation of India.

- a) i & ii are correct
- b) iii & iv are correct
- c) ii & iii are correct
- d) all are correct.

Ans → d) all are correct.

4. _____ extended assistance through its Public Law 480.

- a) United states of America
- b) India
- c) Singapore
- d) UK.

Ans → a) United states of America

5. _____ revolution was born in India paving way for self sufficiency in food grain production.

- a) Blue Revolution
- b) White Revolution
- c) Green Revolution
- d) Grey Revolution

Ans → **c) Green Revolution**

6. _____ is the only state in India to adopt universal PDS.

- a) Kerala
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Karnataka

Ans → **c) Tamil Nadu**

7. _____ is the process of providing or obtaining the food necessary for health & growth.

- a) Health
- b) Nutrition
- c) Sanitation
- d) Security

Ans → **b) Nutrition**

II.] Fill in the blanks.

1. Underweight is an important indicator of nutrition deficiency.

2. In the year 2013 National food security Act was passed by the Indian Parliament.

3. Consumer co-operatives play an important role in the supply of quality goods at responsible rates to common people.

III] match the following.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Consumer cooperatives | - | - Subsidized rates |
| 2. Public Distribution System | | - 2013 |
| 3. UNDP | | - least poor region |
| 4. National Food security Act | | - supply of quality goods. |
| 5. Kerala | | - United Nations Development Programme. |

- Ans →
1. Consumer co-operatives — supply of quality goods
 2. Public Distribution System — subsidized rates
 3. UNDP — United Nations Development Programme.
 4. National Food security Act — 2013
 5. Kerala — least poor region

IV] Assertion & Reason.

1. Assertion (A): Purchasing power increases, price decreases and vice versa

Reason (R): The production of goods decline, the price of goods increases and then the purchasing power is affected.

a) A is correct, R is false.

b) Both A & R are false statements

c) A is correct but R is not correct explanation of A.

d) A is correct, R is correct explanation of A.

Ans → d) A is correct, R is correct explanation of A.

v] Answer in short.

1. Define food security according to FAO.

→ Food security according to FAO:
"Food security exists when all people at all times, have physical, social & economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs & food preferences for an active and healthy life."

2. What are the basic 3 components of food & nutrition security?

-
- Availability of food
 - Access to food
 - Absorption of food.

3. What is the role of FCI in Green Revolution?

→ Minimum support price (MSP) for the crops were announced at the beginning of the season and the state procured the harvested grain through FCI [Food Corporation of India]. The FCI had built huge storage godowns & built buffer stocks of food grain during the harvest season to be distributed all through the year.

4. What are the effects of Green Revolution.

- Effects of Green Revolution are:
- Country became self sufficient in food production.
 - Increase in the yield of major cereal crops and area under cultivation
 - Cheaper farm credit was given to farmers through co-operative banks.

5. What are the major objectives of new Agricultural Policy?

→ Major objectives of new agricultural policy are:

- a) Raising the productivity of inputs.
- b) Raising value added per hectare
- c) Protecting the interests of poor farmers.
- d) Modernising agricultural sector
- e) Environmental degradation
- f) Removing the bureaucratic obstacles.

VI] Answer in detail.

1. Elucidate why the Green Revolution was born.

- The Green Revolution was born in the country paving way for self sufficiency in food grain production. Increased food grain production was made possible by an increase area cultivated with HYV of rice and wheat as also an increase in the yield of these major cereal crops.
- Area under food grains was a little more than 98 million hectares during early 1950s. The country was producing just 54 million tonnes of food grains then with an average yield of food grains of 547 kg per hectare.
 - The food situation has steadily improved over a period of 65 years.
 - Area under food grain cultivation has grown to 122 million hectares, with an increase of five fold increase in food grain production. Yield of food grains has increased four-fold between the time of independence and at present.

2. Explain Minimum Support Price.

- • Minimum support price is the price announced by the government to support the farmers with a better price for particular crops.
- The MSP is much helpful for the farmers because they are sure about the price they would get at the crop season.
- After announcing MSP, the state will open procurement centres in places where these crops are widely grown.
- Farmers get an assured price by selling their produce to Food Corporation of India (FCI) after the harvest.
- But if the farmers find open market price is lower than minimum support price (MSP), then they are free to sell in open market.
- Thus the farmers gain a kind of protection against any price crash during the harvest season.

3. Elaborate the Public Distribution System.

- • Tamil Nadu adopted 'Universal' Public Distribution System (PDS), ~~at~~ under which all the family ration card holders are entitled to the supplies from PDS.
- The rest of the states in India adopted 'Targeted' PDS under which the beneficiaries are identified based on certain criteria and given their entitlements, leaving out the rest.
- Both the Union and the state governments subsidised the supplies distributed through PDS. The level and quantum of subsidy also varied across states.
- The increase in food grain production need not result in increase in access to food for all. Given the unequal distribution of income and the level of poverty that persists in Indian economy, the government took steps to distribute

food grains at subsidised rates through PDS.

4. What are the factors affecting the purchasing power & explain them.

→ Purchasing power is the value of currency expressed in terms of the amount of goods and services that one unit of money can buy.

The factors affecting purchasing power are:

a) Over Population:

Large population leads to increasing demand, but since the supply was not equal to demand, so the normal price goes higher.

b) Increasing price of essential goods.

The continuous rise in the prices of essential goods increases, the prices of goods increases, therefore the purchasing power is affected.

c) Demand for goods

When the demand for goods increases, the prices of goods also increases therefore the purchasing power is affected.

d) Price of goods affect the value of currency.

When prices increases, the purchasing power decreases and finally the value of the currency decreases and vice versa.

e) Production and supply of goods.

When the production and supply of goods decreases, the price of goods increases then the purchasing power is affected.

f) Poverty and inequality.

In general purchasing power is affected by poverty and unequal distribution of income and wealth.

5. What are the main objectives of New Agricultural Policy?

- • The new agricultural policy is based on export of agricultural goods and was announced by central government in 2018.
- The main objectives of New Agricultural Policy are:
 - a) Raising the productivity of inputs:
One of the important objectives of India's agricultural policy is to improve the productivity of inputs so purchased like HYV seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, irrigation projects etc.
 - b) Raising value added per hectare.
Agricultural policy is to increase per hectare value added rather than raising physical output by raising the productivity of agriculture in general and productivity of small & marginal holding in particular.
 - c) Protecting the interests of poor farmers.
Agricultural Policy is proposed to protect the interests of poor and marginal farmers by abolishing intermediaries through land reforms, expanding institutional credit, support to poor farmers etc.
 - d) Modernising the agricultural sector.
Here the policy support includes the introduction of modern technology in agricultural operations and application of improved agricultural inputs like HYV seeds, fertilizers etc.
 - e) Environmental degradation: Agricultural policy of India has set another objective to check environmental degradation of natural base of Indian agriculture.
 - f) Removing bureaucratic obstacles: The policy has set another objective to remove bureaucratic obstacles on the farmer's co-operative societies and self-help institutions so that they can work independently.