

More explanation on Food Security Measures

Adverse effects of climate change, population boom, fragmentation of land holdings and the increasingly expensive technology have posed challenges to India's food security issue. Over the years the land under cultivation has been decreasing. More and more rural people are moving towards the cities and exploring non-agricultural activities as means of earning.

Food security, both at the national and household levels, has been the focus of agricultural development in India ever since the mid-sixties when import dependence for cereals had gone up to 16 percent. The foundation of food security in India was based on providing modern machinery to the farmers, using of high yield variety of seeds and providing loan benefits to the farmers. The performance of agriculture, however, has not been satisfactory. The share of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has registered a steady decline from 36.4 percent in 1982-83 to 13.7 percent in 2015-16. But agricultural sector continues to support more than half a billion people providing employment to 52 percent of the workforce. In order to achieve better food security in India, the following measures can be taken:

- Providing education and literacy: India has grown from subsistence farming to commercial levels of farming. However, the farmers lack technical knowhow to increase their production ability. An educated workforce makes it easy to adapt to new skills and technology required for production growth.
- Crops diversification: To provide for food security we need to grow variety of crops.

- Handling climate change: Global warming is a universal phenomenon. Our country needs to handle the ill-effects of climate change to ensure increase in food production.
- Integrated water management
- Adoption of new technology
- Understanding of consumer pattern

More explanation on Source of Foodgrains

Grains are of two types, whole grains and refined grains. Whole grains include wheat, oatmeal, brown rice etc. Refined grains are those which have been processed through mills, such as white flour and white rice. Refined grains are enriched to add certain vitamins and iron to the processed grain. The amount of grains you need to eat depends on your age, sex, height, weight, and level of physical activity. Eating whole grains reduces the chances of chronic diseases. Grains provide us with nutrients for a healthy life.

About 80 percent of the cultivated land in India is used for foodgrain production. With the large population of India, it is difficult to maintain a balance of supply and demand of foodgrain. Government policy in India has always given substantial importance to foodgrain production. Such support, particularly since the beginning of the Green Revolution in the mid-1960s, has contributed to remarkable growth in this sector despite many constraints. The National Food Security Act (NFSA) came into force on September 12, 2013. The NFSA aims to provide subsidized foodgrains to approximately two thirds of India's population.

The legislation is a landmark, and perhaps the largest food security programme in the world.

