



Vidya Bhawan balika Vidyapeeth shakti utthan aashram Lakhisarai

Revision Class-9th

(Based on N C E R T pattern)

Date:- 21.01.21.

Economics

Food Security in India

Question 1.

Discuss the major reasons for poverty in India

Or

Explain any three causes for the widespread poverty in India.

Answer:

- **British Rule:** Britishers ruled India more than 100 years. Prior to the British rule, traditional industries, for instance, textiles, flourished in India. During the British rule, the government adopted policies to discourage such industries. This left millions of weavers poor. Even after fifty years of independent India, we can find a major section of the people engaged handicraft industries as downtrodden.
- **Lack of industrialisation:** India is very backward from the industrial point of view. Hardly 3 per cent of the total working population is engaged in the large- scale industry.
- **Over dependence on agriculture:** Even after more than 60 years of independence more than 60 per cent of our total population still depends on agriculture for its livelihood. Due to shortage of inputs, our agriculture is backward.

- Inflationary pressure: Upward trend in prices adversely affects the poor sections of the society.
- Unemployment: Due to lack of job opportunities, more than 90 lakhs of our total working force is unemployed.

Question 2.

Explain the major limitations of Public Distribution System.

Answer:

- Stock higher than buffer norms: The actual stock has always remained higher than the buffer. There is a general consensus that high level of buffer stocks of food- grains is very undesirable and can be wasteful. The storage of massive food stocks has been responsible for high carrying costs, in addition to wastage and deterioration in grain quality.
- High burden on the economy: The Minimum Support Price for food grains has risen very sharply in the recent years leading to a very high burden on state exchequer.
- Threat to sustainability of agriculture: The intensive utilisation of water in the cultivation of rice has also led to environmental degradation and fall in the water level, threatening the sustainability of the agricultural development in many states.
- Marked ineffectiveness: Another major area of concern is the marked ineffectiveness of PDS, which is apparent from the fact that the average consumption of PDS grain at the all-India level is only 1 kg per person per month. The average consumption figure is as low as less than 300 gm per person per month in the states of Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

- Corrupt dealers: PDS dealers are sometimes found resorting to malpractices like diverting the grains to open market to get better margin, selling poor quality grains at ration shops, irregular opening of the shops, etc. It is common to find that ration shops regularly have unsold stocks of poor quality grains left.

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