

Food-Security

Intro. - Under food-security, the economic and physical access to nutritionally adequate food is ensured to all the people so that they can live active & healthy life.

From the above, the important dimensions of the notion of food security can be given in

∫

the following manner -

(i) Food must be nutritionally adequate.

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People can live active as well as healthy life.

(ii) Both physical & economic access is required.

Many a times, people may have economic access but they may or may not have physical access. In the times of drought & famine, people may not have physical access to nutritionally adequate food even though they are having enough purchasing power.

Similarly, the nutritionally adequate food may be available physically but some people may lack economic access due to the lack of the adequate purchasing power. India is a case in point in the above respect.

(iii) The target group of food-security is all the people.

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No selective approach

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Food for all

India's Status of Food Security



Serious

Facts -

1. The Value of GHI, 2023

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28.7 (out of 100)

↓
Category: Serious (20 to 34.9)

Rank: (111)

Note - In the construction of GHI, the following indicators are used -

- (i) % of under-nourished population
- (ii) % of stunted children (under 5)
- (iii) % of wasted children (under 5)
- (iv) CMR = Child Mortality Rate.

2. NFHS-5 (2019-21) Findings -

(i) Stunted Children - 35.5 %

(ii) Wasted Children - 19.3 %

(iii) Under-nutrition: Age-15 to 49
years

(i) females \downarrow - 18.7 %

(ii) Males - 16.2 %

(iv) Anemia — 15 to 49 years



✓ female — 57%.

Male — 25%.

(v) Anemia in children.

↓
67%

(vi) Overweight — 15 to 49
years



female — 24% (20.6%)

Male — 22.9% (18.9%)

Conclusion: The status of India regarding food security is serious.

NFSA, 2013

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National Food Security Act

↓
It follows rights-based approach

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Ensures empowerment
of the target group.

↓
a large part of population

↓
Rural

↓
Urban

↓
75%

↓
50%

These ratios are higher than
respective poverty ratios.

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Implication : This Act also
covers some people
above the poverty
line.

The right to food under this Act extends to the following households -

1. Antyodaya Households - 35 kg per month
2. Priority Households → 5 kg per person per month.

The right to food is ensured
in the following way -

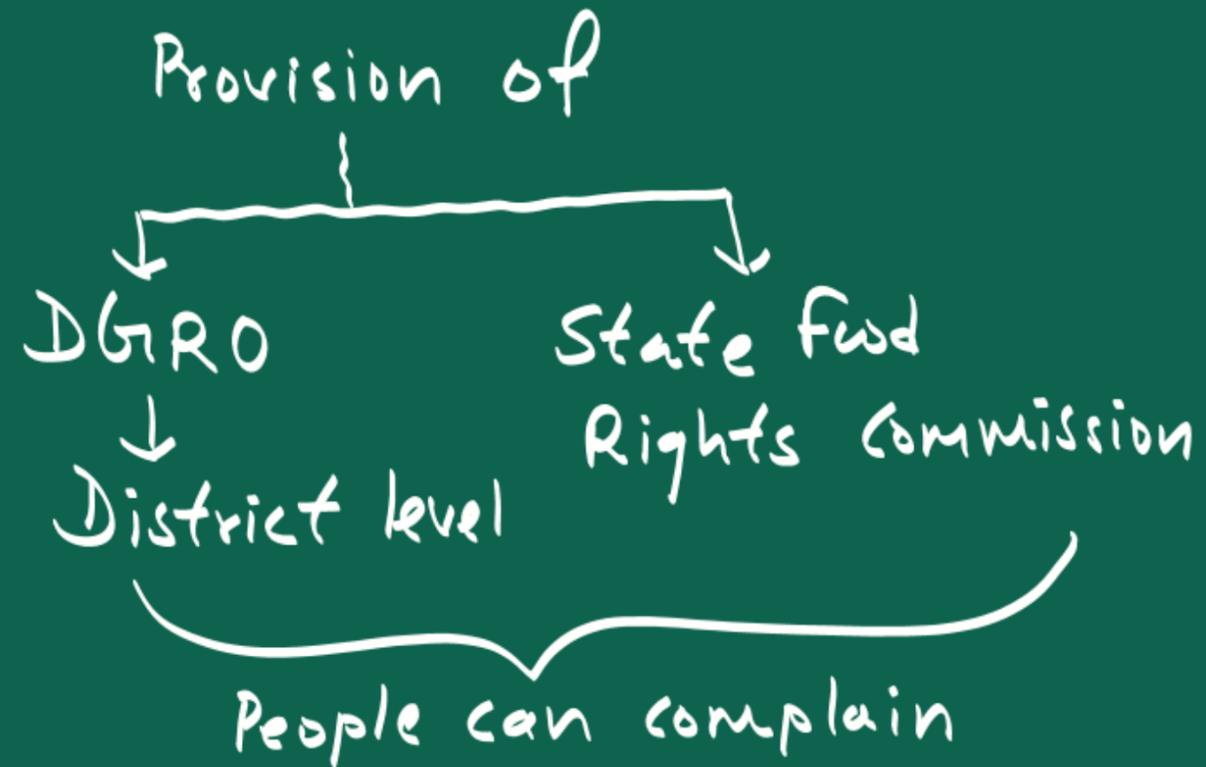
(i) If people are ^{not} given
food grains timely.

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Compensation is given.

(ii) Carelessness by a govt. employee.

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Salary may be cut.

(iii)



Critical Evaluation

The Act is landmark step in direction of food-security (because it follows rights-based approach) but the following points can not be ignored -

(i) follows



Cereal centric approach

(ii) ICMR: A family of

5 members



55 kg - food grains
per month

(iii)

At the WTO level



The issue of PSH of foodgrains

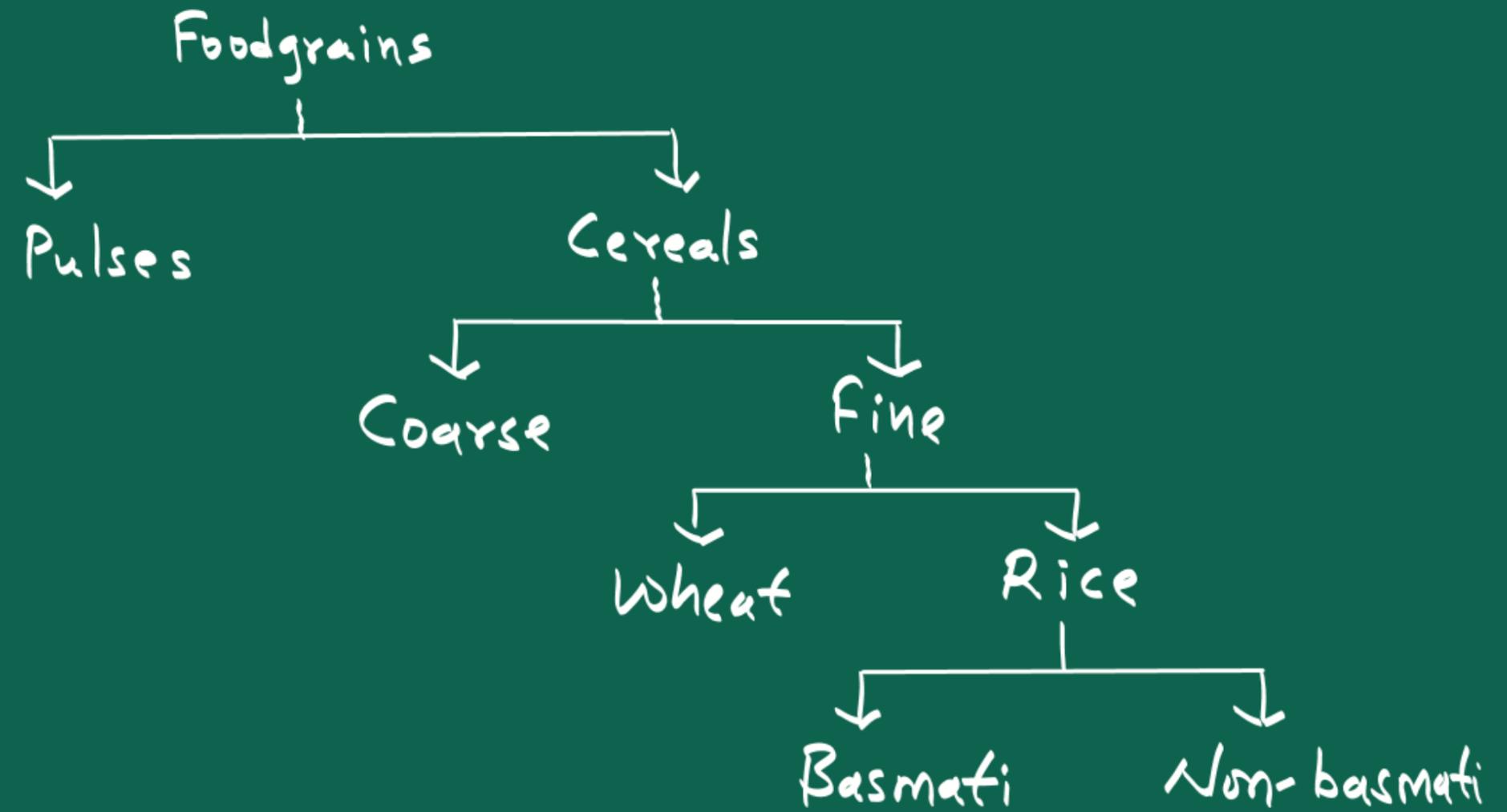


↳ Public Stockholding

unresolved until now.

(iv)

Higher burden
of food-subsidy



WFI is prepared by -

(i) Concern Worldwide

(ii) Welt Hunger Hilfe