

FAQ's

Q.1) Mention a few of governments direct and specific interventions?

Ans: The “direct and specific interventions” are:

- 1) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) specially programmed for lactating and pregnant mothers and children below the age of 3.
- 2) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)
- 3) Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)
- 4) Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Employment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) SABLA
- 5) Indira Gandhi Matriyo Sahayog Yojana (IGMSY)
- 6) Annapurna Scheme (APS)

Q.2) State a few of governments multi-sectoral approaches?

Ans: Governments “Multi-sectoral approaches include:

1. Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)
2. National Horticultural Mission
3. National Food Security Mission
4. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
5. National Rural Drinking Water Scheme.

Q.3) State the main indicators of malnutrition?

Ans: The assessment of malnutrition should be based on the nutritional outcome. Anthropometric measures, clinical signs of malnutrition, biochemical indicators and physical activity are the suggested indicators of malnutrition.

Q.4) Write a short note on Farmer FIRST.

Ans: Farmer FIRST is an ICAR initiative to enhance farmers-scientists contact with multi stake holders-participation. FIRST refers to Farm, Innovations, Resources, Science and Technology. The project focuses on enabling interaction of scientists with farm conditions and problems.

Q.5) Write a brief note on The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Ans: The ICAR, since its inception in 1929, has emerged as a vibrant organization. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), an apex organization for conducting and co-ordinating agricultural research, has been at the forefront to lead these agricultural revolutions in the country.

Q.6) On what basis the efficacy of conversion (food into energy) depends?

Ans: The efficacy of conversion- food into energy of an individual depends on his/her access to safe drinking water, health care and environmental hygiene. The advances in the control of communicable diseases and improvement in health care significantly improved the efficiency of food energy conservation by reducing food wastages caused by diarrhoea and dysentery.

Q.7) What is the state of Children of the poor communities suffering from malnutrition?

Ans: Children of the poor communities suffering from malnutrition not only do not achieve full genetic growth

potential and end up as adults with small body size, but are also exposed to a greater risk of child mortality.

Q.8) Mention basis on which Public Distribution System was criticised ?

Ans: PDS was criticised on a wide front:

- The annual food subsidy involved in maintaining the system is huge. The level of food subsidies as a proportion of total government expenditure has gone up from a level of 2.5 per cent in the early 1990s to more than 5 per cent today (2002-2003).
- The high carrying cost of stocks in excess of the buffer norms pushes up the food subsidy bill.
- Its failure to serve the population Below Poverty Line (BPL).
- For its perceived urban bias.
- Negligible coverage in states with a high density of rural poor.
- Lack of transparent and accountable arrangements for delivery.

Q.9) State the reasons for low participation rates of the poor in the PDS?

Ans: A variety of reasons for low participation rates of the poor in PDS are:

- Difficulty of obtaining ration cards.
- Limited liquidity of poor households (as ration entitlements can be accessed only once every fortnight rather than continuously).
- Uncertain ration supplies.
- Inferior quality of PDS grain.
- Inconvenient location of PDS shops.
- Slender subsidy offered in most states.

Q.10) State the two conditions for the sale of subsidized grain?

Ans: Two conditions govern the sale of subsidized grain.

- First, the buyer of grain must possess a 'ration card'.
- Second, grain purchases are subject to a quota.