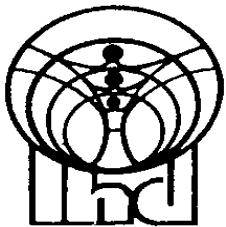


# Food And Nutritional Security

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# What Is Food Security?

- Earlier emphasis was on availability only
- Amartya Sen: “Poverty and Famine” - emphasised on Access or Entitlement
- ... when all people, at all time, have ***physical and economic access*** to sufficient, safe and nutritious food... (World Food Summit, 1996)

# Why is it Important?

- Identify the regions and social groups most affected by food insecurity.
- Suggest policy intervention appropriate to improve food security for those regions and social groups.

# Measurement of Food Security Outcome Indicators

- Nutritional status of the population
- Indicators
  - Under-five mortality
  - Proportion of under nourished Children-
  - height-for-age (stunted)-shows chronic under nutrition
  - weight for height (wasted)- shows acute under nutrition
  - weight for age (underweight children).
  - Number of Anemic women (Problems of district data availability for adult indicators)
- **Morbidity rate** (problem in reporting, inverse relation with mortality)

# Analysis of Food Security

- Along three axis:
  - Availability
  - Access
  - Absorption
- What are the key variables that affect food security along these three axis?

# Availability

- Per capita agricultural production
- Proportion of forest area
- Extent of irrigation
- Rural connectivity

# Access

- Proportion of agricultural labourers
- Proportion of ST and SC population
- Working age population
- Monthly per capita consumption expenditure
- Rural wage rate
- Female literacy

# Absorption

- Access to
  - Safe drinking water
  - Health facilities



# Features of Food Insecure Districts

- High proportion of Scheduled Tribe (ST) population.
- In some of these districts, there is also a high proportion of Scheduled Caste (SC) population with high proportion of agricultural labourers and low wage rates.
- Low rates of women's literacy ( a proxy for women's status).
- Rural connectivity is poor
- Low irrigation coverage

# Development Interventions

**Reducing gender inequality and empowering women** is a key factor in the improvement of food security:

- Improvement in women's **literacy and Education**
- Securing women's **right to land** and other productive assets
- Increasing access to **micro-finance**

# Development Interventions

- Implementation of the Forest Rights Protection Act 2006 so as to provide **security of tenure**
- Implementation of NREGA, MDM, NRHM, Schemes for drinking water and sanitation.
- Expansion of **irrigation in a manner appropriate to hill and plateau regions**
- **Shorten the chain of intermediaries and promote value-added processing in NTFP**

Thank you