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# CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVERS' POINT

A ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR UPSC/APSC/SSC & BANKING

## GS 2 ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

### TOPIC- ISSUES RELATED TO POVERTY AND HUNGER

1. What explains India's poor rank under the Global Hunger Index, and what are the solutions? And do you think focus on lack of availability of food as the main cause of hunger takes the attention away from ineffective human development policies in India? (250 words)

#### MODEL ANSWER:

India ranked 94 among 107 nations in the Global Hunger Index 2020 and is in the 'serious' hunger category. According to the report, 14 per cent of India's population is undernourished. India is one of the 47 countries that have "serious" levels of hunger.

#### The key reasons:

One, the agriculture output from small and marginal holdings are either stagnant or declining due to reasons such as reduced soil fertility, fragmented lands or fluctuating market price of farm produce.

Second, relative income of one section of people has been on the decline.

This has adverse effects on their capacity to buy adequate food, especially when food prices have been on the rise.

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**Third, the kind of work a section of people have been doing are less remunerative or there is less opportunity to get remunerative works.**

**What can be done**

**A multi-pronged approach is needed to deal with the crisis.**

**First, more crops have to be grown, especially by small and marginal farmers with support from the Union government. A renewed focus on small and marginal holdings is imperative.**

**Second, the government may create provisions to supply cooked nutritious food to the vulnerable section of the society.**

**Third, rural employment schemes such as MGNREGA should be given a boost to increase employment and wages.**

**Research shows that our top-down approach, poor implementation processes, lack of effective monitoring and siloed approaches in tackling malnutrition (missing convergence) often result in poor nutrition indices. We must integrate actions to make public health and nutrition a priority across each sector.**

*Leadership through knowledge...*

**Hunger and undernutrition cannot and should not be fixed by mere calorie provision. All stakeholders steered by robust leadership must pay attention to**

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**making balanced healthy diets which are climate-friendly, affordable and accessible to all.**

**2. Explain the significance “Affordable Housing for All” in the human and economic development of India. (150 words)**

**MODEL ANSWER:**

**Food, cloth and housing are the basic necessities of any individual.**

**Affordable housing improves well being of an individual and a country in following manner**

**1. Affordable housing will help the poor families move out of slums. They'll be saved from the unhygienic conditions of sewer, smoke from wooden stoves. Thus, reduced disease burden- Family's wages and savings on education and business instead of medicine.**

**2. More safety from floods, lightening, stampede, slum/forest fire and other natural and man-made disasters. Thus, Disaster Vulnerability reduced.**

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- 3. Urban local bodies can eventually impose property tax on such affordable houses and use the money for public welfare.**
- 4. Direct employment for construction workers, masons, plumbers, carpenters**
- 5. People living in pucca houses will fare better on health and education outcomes compared to slum-dwellers. Such healthy workforce by itself helps in economic growth.**
- 6. Clean and pleasant image of the city can attract more foreign tourists, thus boosting economy.**

Considering these benefits, Government of India has launched the mission "Housing for All by 2022" and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana with urban and rural components.

# CSAP

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*Leadership through knowledge...*

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