Food Production in India:

Current and Future Trends

Moving towards healthier and Sustainable Framing and Major Agriculture Export Nation of Value Added Farm Produce

	India's share global production			India's share in global export			
	2020	2030	**2050**	2020	2030	**2050**	Remarks
Rice	14.7% (112.8 MMT)	12.0%	**10.0%**	2.8%	5.0%	**10.0%**	Reduced production of rice and reduced export of rice due to
Wheat	12.9 % (99.8 MMT)	11.0%	**10.0%**	0.1%	5.0%	**10.0%**	Reduced production of wheat and significantly large export of wheat
Sugarcane	20.8 % (383.8 MMT)	15.0%	**10.0%**	4.0%	6.0%	**10.0%**	Reduced production of sugarcane and also reduce consumption and export sugar
Coarse Grains	10.0% (97.4 MMT)	15.0%	**20.0%**	8.0%	10.0%	**20.0%**	Significantly increase, become a major exporter of coarse grains
Fruits	10.0 % (97.4 MMT)	15.0%	**20.0%**	1.2	10.0%	**20.0%**	Significantly increase in production and exports of fruits
Vegetables	11.2% (184.4 MMT)	15.0%	**20.0%**	1.6	10.0%	**20.0%**	Significantly increase in production and exports of fruits
Pulses	25% (25 MMT)	26.0%	**30.0%**	Imported	Self-sufficient	**10.0%**	Become self-sufficient and then export
Edible Oil	12.0% 24 (MMT)	14.0%	**15.0%**			**15.0%**	Become self-sufficient and then export
Spices	70.0% (1.2 MMT)	75.0%	**80.0%**	16.0	18.0%	**25.0%**	Increased production and exports
Tea	20.0% (1.1 MMT)	25.0%	**30.0%**	9.8	12.0%	**15.0%**	Increased production and exports
Organic food	15.0%	20.0%	**30.0%**	8.0%	15.0%	**25.0%**	Increased production and exports

Expert Opinion

The overall calorie deficient in India is going to end in the next 4-5 years. In the last three decades, we have made a lot of progress in improving calorie amounts. The balance of calories in India is overstated towards carbohydrates (rice, wheat and potatoes) and understated towards proteins. This is largely due to heavy government subsidies towards rice and wheat (2/3rd of subsidies goes to rice and wheat) and not enough support to proteins. It was fine when the country was fighting for food security but not now when nutrition is the focus.

Public health issues in India (not focussing on absolute numbers) – but percentages when compared to similar countries – the problem areas are stunting + wasting, diabetes and anaemia. Stunting and wasting clearly caused due to protein deficiency, and others are caused due to dietary imbalances. Indian food policy now needs to move towards less rice, wheat potato and sugar; more milk, meat, leafy vegetables, pulses. Apart from subsidies, heavy import protection on proteins – protein prices globally are significantly lower than protein prices in India and carb prices in India are significantly cheaper as compared to the world.

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