

Sept-13 The basic strategy to combat malnutrition would have to be initiated afresh with greater stress on scientific approaches. Elaborate.

According to FOOD AND NUTRIENT SECURITY ANALYSIS, India 2019 by BLOI and United Nations World Food Programme - malnutrition in India remain high despite of rapid economic growth, reduced rate of poverty, increase in food export and multiplicity of govt programme.

Malnutrition : complex and multidimensional issue.

Causes :

- Poverty
- inequitable food distribution
- inadequate food consumption
- improper maternal, Infant, child care
- gender imbalance
- poor sanitary and environment conditions
- Restricted access to quality of health, education and social care.

Approaches to combat :

(40% cash SC, ST & OBC children under 6 shunted)

1. Sustainable Development Goal (SD Goal 2 : 0 hunger) - to end the hunger and malnutrition by 2030
2. UN decade of action on nutrition from 2016 to 2025
3. National nutrition mission (Poshan Abhiyan)
 - to reduce - undernutrition, anemia and low birth weight to 2%, 3%, 2% respectively
 - to reduce - stunting by 2% a year and reduced to 25% by 2022
4. National nutrition strategy prepared by NITI Aayog - to attain malnutrition-free India by 2022.
5. to co-ordinate various ministries to implement the programme.
6. To improve the real-time data monitoring
7. setting of Anganwadis - to distribute the services to mother & children
Bihar & Odisha → have large vulnerable populations.
8. Sustainable food production & distribution and storage.
9. Improve the child feeding practice.