

GS-3 - Agriculture

4. Discuss the role of community kitchens that can create a market for pulses and coarse grains.

Recently central government merged Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana with national Food Security Act - to provide free food grains to identified 'BPL' beneficiaries.

Reasons for Merge

1. Rising food subsidy bill $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{exceeded ₹ 2 Lakh crore} \\ \text{exceeded by 80000 cr.} \end{array} \right.$
2. Food stock in Food Corporation of India has decreased.

From National Family Health Survey - 5, we can see that Malnutrition is endemic in India. Allocation of bulk ration won't only solve the malnutrition problem.

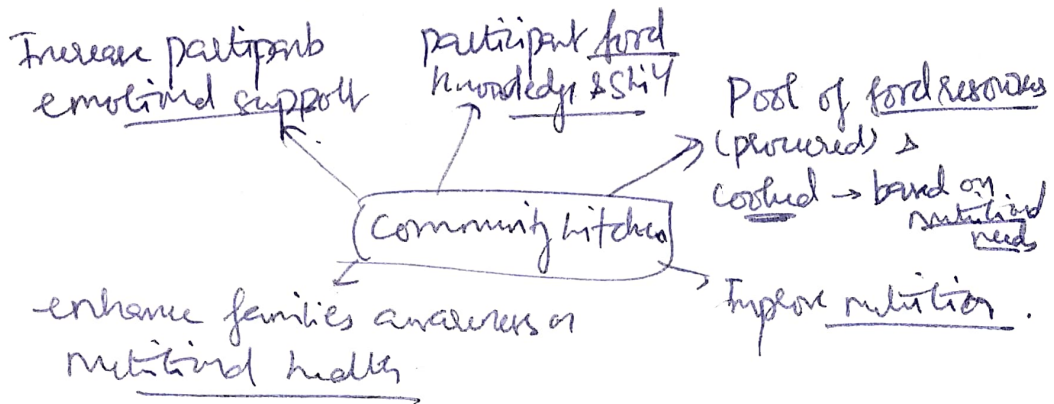
Need for diversification & decentralised procurement

1. Diversification & decentralised procurement ~~cost~~ of food grains can be fed into community kitchen.

Community kitchen - Institution which supply free cooked nutritious food based on local tastes, as service to public. Supreme court also urged centre to focus community kitchen.

Community kitchen

Success programmes → eg: Amma unavagam (Tamil Nadu)



Issues

Parliamentary standing committee report on decentralised procurement shows - NITI Aayog has not carried out performance analysis of Decentralised procurement only 9 states/UT - wheat, 16 states/UT - Rice - under takes the program. Also diversification ~~has not~~ ^{study on why} on pulses food edible oil. Cause grain has not been done?, was not provided.

Community kitchen with its benefits shows can address the nutrition problem, can also become market for pulses coarse grains

Act 47 - of directive principle provide for state to leverage nutritional needs of citizens for which community kitchen can be best possible solution