

ENG. ESSAY

Title: "The New Threat of Rising Food Insecurity across the globe"

1. Introduction

2. The status of rising food insecurity in 21st century.

i) What is food insecurity.

ii) Compare the past and present food shortage conditions.

3- What are some of the causes of food insecurity in the present world?

a- Rising Inflation (particularly food inflation).

▶ Case in point: Sub-Saharan Africa.

b- Global powers in constant state of conflicts and wars

Case in point: Russia - Ukraine war, Israel - Palestine conflict.

c- Water scarcity

FAO Report of 2023

d- Rising population / Overpopulation

Report on population and demographics, 2017

4- How food insecurity is a major threat?

a- Social and Political Instability

Case study of Somalia

b- Human health and well-being

UN-SDG # 4 'Zero Hunger'

c- Economic consequences.

Destabilized economic indicators

d- Environmental Degradation

UN report & OECD study

e- Mass Migration and Displacements

Example of Afghanistan - Jakarta.

5- Way Forward to tackle the issue:

i) Cooperation ~~is~~ and concerted efforts of countries and organizations.

ii) Overcoming the socio-economic constraints. (overpopulation - inflation)

6- Conclusion

Food is the fuel for human lives. As it is ~~a~~ ^{the} fuel, so it must be in the quantity that makes ~~us~~ one feel energized and able to walk. But this power engine is decreasing, slowly and gradually. Now, the community would could not sleep rather work for its production. Food and nutrition are the ~~un~~ultimate needs of human body for effective functioning of its body systems. But, the levels of eatables is decreasing day-~~to~~^{by} day to meet the demand of the world population. It has come to a dangerously low level where it is unable to feed the maximum number of individuals. This food insecurity, in the 21st century ~~has~~ become a new threat among the other ones. It occurred due to various social factors such as over population, water scarcity, economic constraints including inflation. It becomes a threat ~~to~~ ~~the~~ across the globe as it brings destabilization in the socio-economic indicators, a

challenge to the environment, the habitats and the well-being of individuals. The world community must deal the challenge with iron hands through cooperation and an individual will ~~to~~ of the people to cope the current dilemma. In a nutshell, food insecurity is emerging as a new global threat due to various ~~so~~ economic and social causes. It brings chaos in the global community, so must be acted upon by the concerted efforts of leaders and the public.

Food shortage, or the lack of sufficient dietary content ~~is~~ ~~a~~ has become a new ^{it} problem for the entire world, as ~~they~~ ^{has} have less stock to feed the entire nations. It remains a significant challenge in the 21st century, despite progress made in reducing hunger and malnutrition, which is the hazardous impact of food insecurity. It is growing dangerously high, as compared to the levels of past. According to FAO, 2004: 923 mil-

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billion people suffered from hunger (1 in 7 people) ^{in 2002} whereas, the same issue becomes a challenge when ~~2 billion~~ 2 billion people suffered from hunger from 2015-2017 (1 in ~~10~~ 4 people). This is how, through the analysis of previous situation of food insecurity with current scenario, gives an insight that the problem is escalating and more people are facing the lack of food and adequate nutrition to feed themselves.

* There are many different causes of food insecurity in the world. The foremost severe cause is the rising inflation particularly food inflation across the world. The prices of commodities are constantly increasing in the global market, which directly leads to an increase in the national markets. The citizens therefore, could not afford to purchase the eatables necessary to maintain their nutritional content and bodily needs. Therefore, this food insecurity becomes a major problem in the world. 25% of the

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population of sub-saharan Africa suffers from hunger. (World Health Organization, 2020). The developing countries such as Africa, Sudan and others have high food insecurity rates as they are vulnerable nations to afford the ^{expensive} prices of commodities, so a significant number of their population faces food crisis. Thus, rising inflation contributes in food insecurity across the world.

Moreover, the constant rift and conflicts among the global powers becomes a striking cause of food crisis in the world. The ~~world~~ states in the world are in a race. They are competing for resources, leaderships, ^{and} territories. Nearly every state is in a discord with any other nation. This impacts the overall economies of the countries' exports and imports. The trickle down impact of such wars and conflicts poses a threat to the commodities from one specific country involved in wars and disputes.

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This brings a crisis in the food industry ~~and~~ to the already ailing condition of developing and starving sections of some nations. The Israel-Palestine conflicts, the Russia-Ukraine^{war} have contributed excessively in downizing the food production, fuel availability ~~and~~ ^{hiking the} prices of commodities in the international market. Thus, the food crises ~~is~~ ^{up_s and down_s in the} aggravated due to international market trends influenced by global conflicts.

Furthermore, water scarcity across the world leads to escalating ~~the~~ food crisis in the world. Water is essential for growing, cleaning ^{and} preparing food. In short, it is vital for food processing at every level. But the world is already facing water scarcity due to low water reserves. ~~Increasing~~ ^{global} The abrupt change in the weather patterns lead water reservoirs to wither and dry. Ultimately this lack of water lessens the amount of food ^{growth and} preparation in the world.

As agriculture plays a vital role in water equation, since it is responsible for around 70% of freshwater withdrawal. Water scarcity means less water for agriculture production which in turn means less food available, threatening food security and nutrition. (Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations - 2023). Hence, water scarcity is also a ~~cause~~^{threat} to the rising food insecurity in the world.

In addition to water scarcity, overpopulation is also a hurdle to manage food distribution across the globe. The overwhelming increase in the number of heads in the past few years in the world makes it a problem for the countries to supply food to every individual. The growing population demands more food, which is insufficient to manage ~~by~~^{income of} the ~~glob~~ countries, thus contributing to food inadequacy across the globe. The 2017 Report on population and demographics highlighted that

food calorie production will have to expand by 70% by 2050 keeping up with global population that forecasts to grow to 9.7 billion from 7.3 billion. In this way, the global population growth demands more food intake and this situation needs more food production to meet the increasing numbers, which is the cause of food crisis.

Food crisis is a growing concern for the present century as it brings social and political destabilization in the countries. Countries that are vulnerable to the demands of growing population and lagging behind their production or importing food items, face worsening socio-political casualties. The social problems aggravate in such countries such as crimes, violence and many other issues. Similarly political crisis arise in such countries. Somalia is one such example where food insecurity and the ailing socioeconomic indicators are heightened.

to dangerous levels and it became very difficult for the government to stay on the seat and fulfill the demands of the starving population. This is how, food crisis is a major threat as it brings social and political instability.

Food unavailability in the world provokes diseases and proves disastrous to human health and well being. It leads to ~~harm~~ malnutrition, weak ~~immunit~~ immune system functioning, and vulnerable resistance to fight against diseases and pathogens. This in turn ~~hind~~ causes poor health, both physical and mental health and hinders stability. This is due to the fact that the inadequate nutritional matter, the necessary nutrients, minerals and vitamins are inadequate in the diet that hinders their ability to confront the challenges of modern times. The ^{4th} Sustainable Development Goals proposed by United Nations highlight the 4th ~~to~~ Goal as 'Zero Hunger' to

be accomplished till 2030, as the hunger conditions severely affect the human health and well-being. (United Nations - 2015). As food crisis proves to be fatal for the health conditions, so it is considered as a threat for the current period.

The world faces economic consequences due to food shortage. It downsizes the economic indicators of the countries, as they are unable to ~~pr~~ ~~balance~~ maintain a balance between the supply and demand mechanism of commodities. They, also cannot manage to curb the food waste prevalent in the countries.

This, as a result creates an imbalance in the product usage and wastage that is being used in the country. According to ~~to~~ a new ~~joint~~ report by UN ~~and~~ Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, ~~around 1 million tonnes of food gets wasted which causes food imbalance~~ promotes a destabilization in

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countries' economic sphere. Thus, it is evident that food crisis in the world brews troubles for the economy of the countries.

Environmental degradation is also a dilemma ~~for~~, even a greater threat to this century. It is also contributed in by food losses in the world. The food insecurity - lesser food on the planet, the ~~less~~ even lesser reaches the mouths due to wastage and ineffective processing & leads to more food wasted than produced. This ^{food} produced after multiple hurdles, then is consumed less and wasted more; according to the unequal and inequitable distribution, leads to global warming and ozone layer depletion. The rotten food items release harmful poisonous gases which disturb the natural ecosystem and threaten humanity; also contributing to multiple other diseases and ~~infect~~ epidemics. According to a new Joint report

by UN and Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development OECD, around 1 million tonnes of food gets wasted, which also causes 8-10% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

This is how, the wasted foods contribute and ruin the environment.

In the same line, food inequality propels mass migration and displacements. The countries that fall short to the supply of providing nutrients nutrition to their citizens either due to conflicts with other states or due to economic upheavals continue to witness migration of masses and displacements. This is because the general public need their survival toolkit to resist and fight epidemics and pandemics, also no one wants to die starving. The mass displacements and influx of refugees after wars such as from Afghanistan to Pakistan, or after floods and environmental disturbances from Jakarta and other countries

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portray a grim picture. This indicates the food shortage being a threat in the ongoing 21st century.

~~the~~ ~~conclusion~~, food insecurity; ~~the~~ rapidly increasing threat occurs

In order to combat the rapidly increasing threat of food insecurity across the world, it is necessary to recognize the depth of the situation and then act upon it. The world leaders and all the international organizations should join hands and cooperatively tackle the issues. The peace in world can only be promoted once the public gets the required nutrition for its sustainable growth and working. So, international forums should conduct ~~meet~~ ^{meetings} and raise awareness also. Correspondingly, a mechanism ~~to~~ to overcome or control the social stigmas such as rising population, water scarcity can also benefit the world ^{and} the inhabitants to survive the threatening

It and disastrous challenges in the world.

In conclusion, food shortage is a growing concern at present due to various socio-economic and political hurdles grappling the world.

It proves to be a threatening issue that can be dealt effectively by conjoined efforts of community across the globe. It occurs due to the inability of the world to ~~overcome~~ put a hold on the social and economically frail conditions. It brings severity ~~in~~ and turbulence in the world order. The issue ~~can be~~ is rising day-by-day and it is destructive for the countries as their resource banks cannot always remain filled. Thus, the world facing its consequences ~~are~~ ^{is} also evident from their alarming ~~human lives~~ hazardous approaching them. Thus.

Therefore, the countries need to tackle the crisis with collaboration and individual will.