

Outline Food insecurity: the defining challenge of the century ahead

① Introduction

Thesis statement Food insecurity looms as a defining challenge of the century ahead. The escalating climate change, population growth and geopolitical tensions contribute to it. Therefore, an urgent need of international cooperation and is necessary to address this menace the looming threats of food insecurity.

② A potent challenge of the century ahead is food insecurity.

③ How food insecurity is a defining challenge of the century ahead?

① Depletion of natural resources due to huge population.
case in point: FAO, by 2025, 1.8bn people will have no water to drink.

② Prevailing poverty across the globe contributes to food insecurity.
case in point: (According to World vision report, global poverty estimates that 1.2bn people living in extreme poverty globally.)
FAO estimates 60% of the world's hungry are those who are living under poverty line.

③ Changing climate condition: a major challenge of food insecurity of the century ahead.
case in point: IPCC analyses; increasing temperature are projected to reduce major crop yields by 2-6% per decade by 2050.

④ Increasing land salinity across the globe
case in point: According to UN environment program states 33% of the global soils are severely degraded in the global land Outlook 2 report.

⑤ Wars and civil unrest often disrupt food production and access.

case in point: Ukraine-russia war; decline in food production 20-30% in 2023 - and 7 million people faced food insecurity in 2023 (The Guardian)

⑧ Increasing urbanisation contributes in food insecurity
case in point:

⑨ Burgeoning population: a challenge to food insecurity of the
case in point: puts pressure on agricultural land.
WB 2020 report and study; areas expand
700,000 hectares annually b/w 2010 and 2030.

④ Ripple effects of such food insecurity in the century ahead:

① Increasing malnutrition among masses
case in point: ever 820 million people are undernourished
(Food and Agriculture Organisation - FAO)

② Weak development of cognitive abilities and so
case in point: children under 5 experiencing stunted growth
due to chronic malnutrition reached 144 million
globally - UNICEF

③ Social unrest Famine contributes in social unrest
case in point: Venezuela crisis (2014-present) contribute
to social unrest due to economic mismanagement.

④ Mass displacement of the people for food search
case in point: UN estimates that 280 million people
could be migrants by 2050, mainly driven
by food insecurity. \therefore

⑤ Weak economic growth due to ~~adverse~~ deteriorated
health condition
case in point: OECD health economic papers argue
that better and healthy population
drives economic production.



⑤ Measures to address these challenges for better future

- ① Shifting towards climate-friendly practices to reduce climate effects
 - ② Diversification of ~~crop practices to~~ cropping system to increase food production
 - ③ Enhance international cooperation to address complex issue of food insecurity
 - ④ Control on population growth to ~~rescue~~ address the ~~resource~~ ^{excessive} utilization of natural resources
 - ⑤ Conclusion
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ESSAY:

The world has become a playground for major powerful giants and superpowers to sustain and maintain their hegemony and supremacy. When their interests are not being fulfilled by negotiations and agreements, they use the weapons and start wars on the appressed opponents to coerce them and attain interest. As John Dingle said, "War is the failure of diplomacy". However, these actors forget and ignore the aftermyths of their actions. One of the major implications of conflicts and wars is the increasing food insecurity and becoming a major obstacle and a defining challenge of the century ahead. For example, depletion of natural resources, changing climate conditions and prevailing poverty across the globe contribute to food insecurity. Moreover, these conflicts and wars disrupts the food production, access and make lands unfertile and saline. The increase in urbanisation is also increasing and burgeoning population which contribute in food insecurity. All these factors of food insecurity give or put ripple effects on human beings and economy. Such as, malnutrition among masses, weak development of cognitive abilities and social unrest due to famine. Not only this but also mass displacement of the masses for food search and weak economic growth due to deteriorate condition of health. However, to secure food security is challenging in the current scenario of the world,

but it is achievable by shifting the practices of irrigation towards climate friendly practices, by diversification of cropping systems, by enhancing international cooperation to address complex issues of food insecurity and by controlling population growth, the world can accomplish food security. In essence, food insecurity looms as a defining challenge of the century ahead. The escalating climate change, population growth and geopolitical tensions contribute in it. Therefore, an urgent need of international cooperation is necessary to address the looming threats of food insecurity.

Before delving into the discussion, how food insecurity is a defining challenge, one must need to first analyze what is food insecurity and how it is a potent challenge ahead. Food insecurity is basically a situation where someone lacks reliable access to enough affordable, nutritious food to meet their basic needs for an active healthy life. There are various levels of food insecurity, mild, moderate and severe, according to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Due to increasing conflicts and frequent changing in climate become a challenge for us to secure food resources for the next generations. As, the present masses are insecure to food, such as, according to FAO, 2022 statistics, almost 691 to 783 million people faced food insecurity and

poverty line. Hence, scarcity of financial resources also contribute to food insecurity.

Not only is there prevailing poverty but there is also changing climate condition which encourage food insecurity. It is a major challenge of food insecurity in the coming century ahead. The temperature of the earth is changing at an unprecedented rate and impacting the agricultural sector at large. Such as, Intergovernmental Panel on climate change (IPCC) analyses that increasing temperature projected to reduce major crop yields by 3% to 6% per decade till 2050. Therefore, such declines and reduction in crops production due to climate change contributes to food insecurity.

This climate change contributes in increasing land salinity across the globe. The reason behind this is due to changing climate condition the floods, droughts and wild fires are increasing across the globe. All these factors ~~with~~ the condition of land make the fertile land infertile and saline which resulted in less food production. According to United Nations Environment report, Global Land Outlook 2, almost 33% of the global soils are severely degraded due to climate change. Hence, such degradation to soil becomes a defining

severe hunger in the year 2022. Hence, food insecurity is really a challenge of the century ahead.

One of the defining challenges is the depletion of natural resources. The major source of food is the natural resources which provides a plethora of food things which are that are used by the masses to produce finished product that will be edible. However, in the 21st century, this becomes a major challenge as population is increasing at a large scale which strain the resources and becomes a challenge of food insecurity for the next generations. According to the estimates of FAO, by 2025, 1.5 billion people will have no water to drink. Hence, depriving from water, a major resource, is a potent challenge of food insecurity.

Moreover, poverty is prevailing across the globe. It contributes in the food insecurity. Due to global shocks and conflicts, the economy of the states has become stagnant which resulted in poverty and unemployment. When people have no job and are living under povertyline, they are unable to meet daily food necessities and requirements. They lack the financial resources, infrastructure or social safety nets to access food. As, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates, 60% of the world's hungry are those who are living under

challenge of food insecurity ahead.

Similarly, Wars and conflicts also contribute to food insecurity. The unrest in any region disrupts the food production, access and distribution which contributes to food insecurity. In the first of 21st century, wars are a common phenomenon for major powerful giants to attain their interests in the cost of human lives. It is exemplified by the famous wars, Ukraine-Russia war, the major giants of food production, that there is a decline in food production of 20-30% in 2023 and as a result 7 million people faced food insecurity (The Guardians). Hence, wars are also a defining challenge of food insecurity of the century ahead.

To conclude, food insecurity is a situation of inadequate availability of food resources which becomes a defining challenge of the century ahead. Such as, declining natural resources, wars and conflicts, poverty and climate conditions all result in food insecurity. Its ripple effect, such as, malnutrition among man, weak economic production, fragile cognitive development and social unrest, further deteriorate the condition. Therefore, it is a high time, the world should stand and fight against

this complex and multifaceted challenge of food insecurity to save the upcoming generations.

Asi Ban Kimoon said, "It is time for us to stop fighting each other and start fighting against climate change and food insecurity"