FOOD SECURITY

Exists “when all people, at all times have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”

(World Food Summit, 1996)
Food security covers:

- **Availability:** Domestic production and imports
- **Access:** Purchasing power
- **Utilization:** Ability of the human body to digest and metabolize food
ACHIEVEMENTS IN FOOD PRODUCTION

- **Agriculture sector growth rate**
  - 1980s: 5.4%
  - 1990s: 4.4%
  - 2000s: 3.0%
  - 2011: 2.4
  - 2012: 3.1

- **Record production:**

- **Freedom from wheat imports**
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>122.9</td>
<td>117.7</td>
<td>125.4</td>
<td>132.8</td>
<td>126.8</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>17.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pulses</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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<td>Edible Oils</td>
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Source: Agricultural Statistics of Pakistan, 2009-10.
FACTOR AFFECTING FOOD SECURITY

- Stagnancy in productivity (land degradation)
- Energy crisis/high input costs
- Decline in incomes
- Global food prices surge
- High dependence on imported food
- Growing incidences of food related diseases
- Increase in poverty
CONSEQUENCES OF FOOD INSECURITY

- Malnutrition
  - Minor Protein-energy malnutrition
  - Major micro-nutrients deficiencies
  - Underweight and stunted children

- Impact on Social Indicators
  - Health
  - Education
  - Low productivity of labour force
CHALLENGES FOR FOOD SECURITY

- High Population growth rate
- Low investments to boost agriculture and food production
- Declining Water availability
- Climate change and disasters
- Vast productivity gap between progressive and resource poor farmers
- Rising prices of essential food items
- Limited food diversification
- Health related issues
- Generally neglected – most vulnerable segments
• Adequate production through enhancing productivity

• Availability of farm inputs at reasonable prices and ensuring better return to farmers

• Stability of food prices

• Targeted subsidies and safety nets for poor and vulnerable

• Free movement of agricultural commodities through a sustainable food distribution system

• Increasing investment to build grain storage space through public and private sector participation
MAIN ELEMENTS OF FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY

• Achieving an average agricultural growth rate at least of 4% per annum

• Developing an efficient and equitable system of food procurement, storage and distribution

• Improving access of poor household to food by adopting pro-poor growth strategy and providing non-farm employment on a substantial scale

• Building a transparent and well managed system of safety nets to provide income support to very poor households
MAIN THRUSTS TO ENSURE FOOD SECURITY

• Increasing investment in R & D for knowledge based and technology led development of agriculture sector with increased provincial role

• Enhancing food production through exploiting available productivity potential

• Promoting investment in health and education sectors

• Implementation of efficient safety nets

• Equitable development of economy and resource utilization with a focus on poor and vulnerable segments of society

• Smallholder productivity/competitiveness
SPECIFIC INITIATIVES

- Launching of National Income Support Programme

- National Task Force on Food Security

- Attractive farm-gate price for wheat crop

- Intervention price mechanism for rice and pulses

- Enhancing Food Grains Storage Capacity

- Special Programme for Food Security
- Subsidized food items through Utility Stores network

- Wheat flour iron fortification programme
THANK YOU