

# FOOD SECURITY IN PAKISTAN

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# THREE QUESTIONS

- A. State of FS in Pak (1980-2010)?
  
- B. Role of poverty reduction strategies/policies for ↓ of hunger, poverty & malnutrition?
  
- C. Social safety nets for FS of people?



# Q1. STATE OF FOOD SECURITY IN PAK (1980-2010)?

- 1) Food production
- 2) Nutrition
- 3) Access to food



# 1) *FOOD PRODUCTION*

(1980-10), food production and availability ↑

- GDP & agri output ↑ 5.1%
- Food grain product ↑ 2.6%
- Per capita net food production ↑ 1.0 %
- Food availability/person/day ↑ from 2,302 kcal to 2,415 > 2,350 (min requirement)

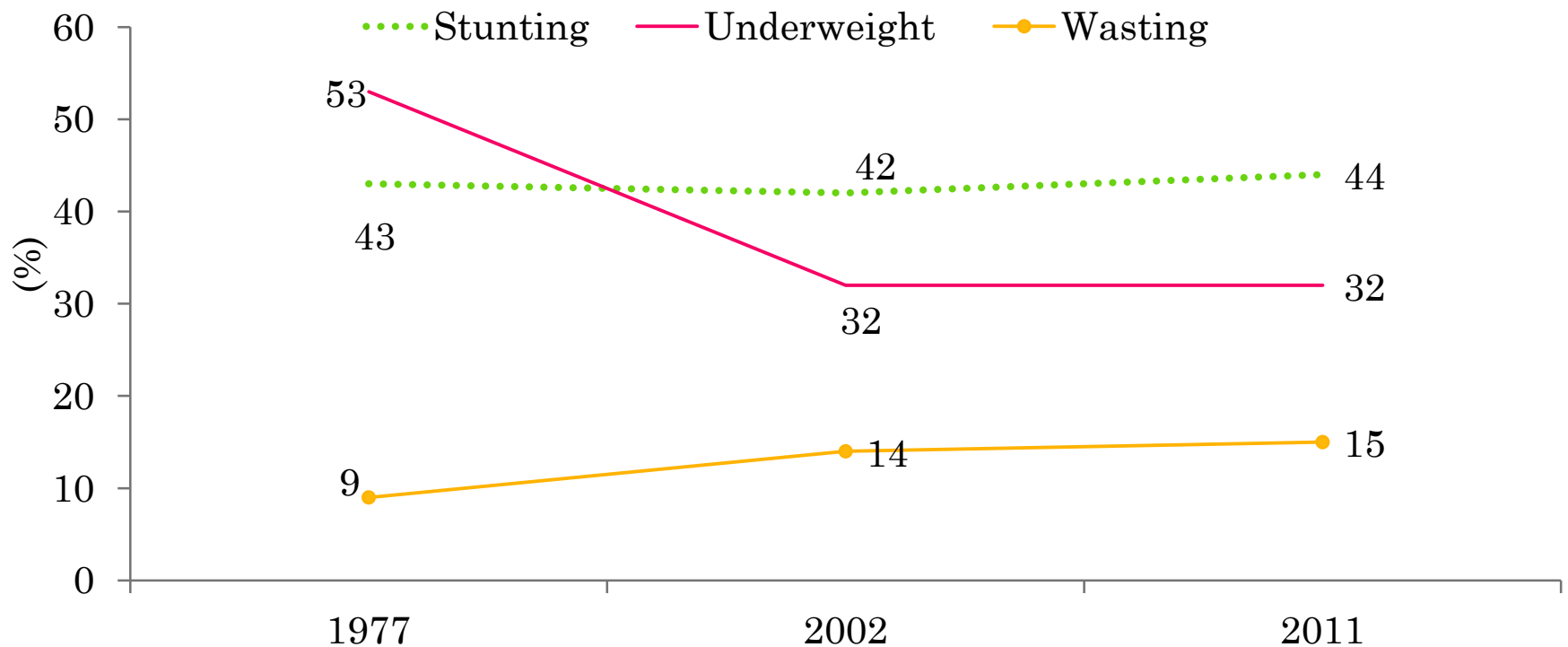


## 2) *NUTRITION*

Malnutrition & hunger show a different picture.

### Children under-5:

Figure Malnutrition trends among children under-5 in Pak



○ Pak among top 5 with highest no. of stunted and wasted child



**Table Nutritional status indicators in the world, 2011**

	Stunting	Wasting	Underweight	Low birth weight
Pakistan	<b>44</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>
South Asia	39	16	33	28
Sub-Saharan Africa	40	9	21	12
Middle East & North Africa	20	9	8	...
East Asia & Pacific	12	4	6	6
Latin America & Caribbean	12	2	3	8
Central & Eastern Europe	12	1	2	7
World	26	8	16	15



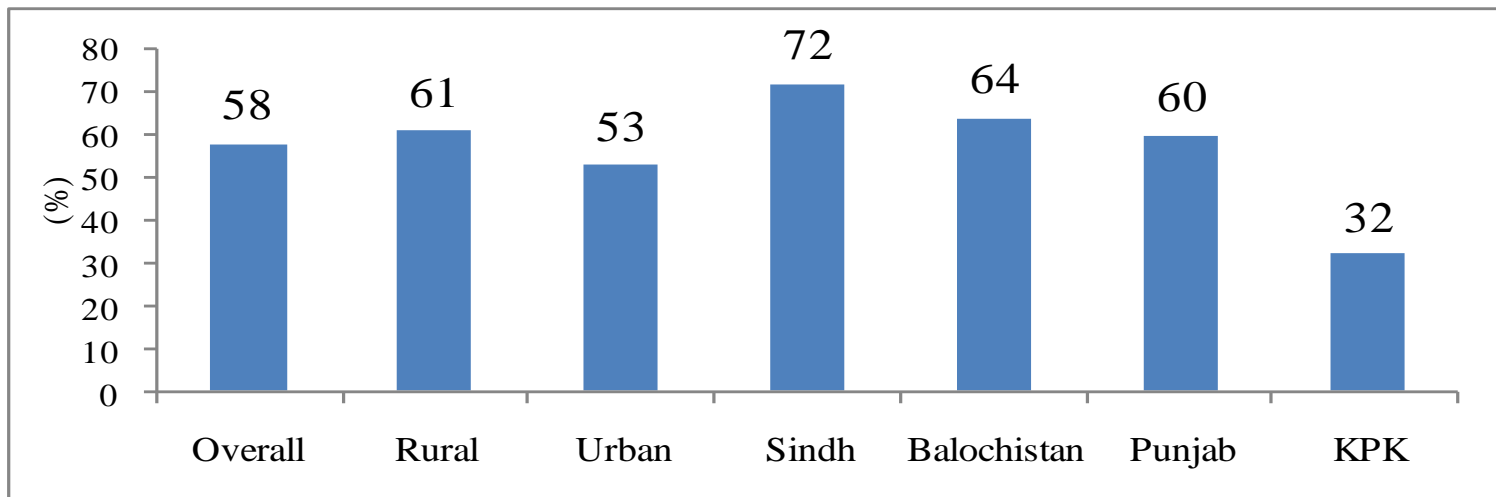
## Women:

- (2011) Anaemia 51%
- 2011), 53% with normal BMI

## Overall:

(2003-11) % of food insecure  $\uparrow$  38 to 58%

**Figure Food insecurity in Pakistan, 2011**

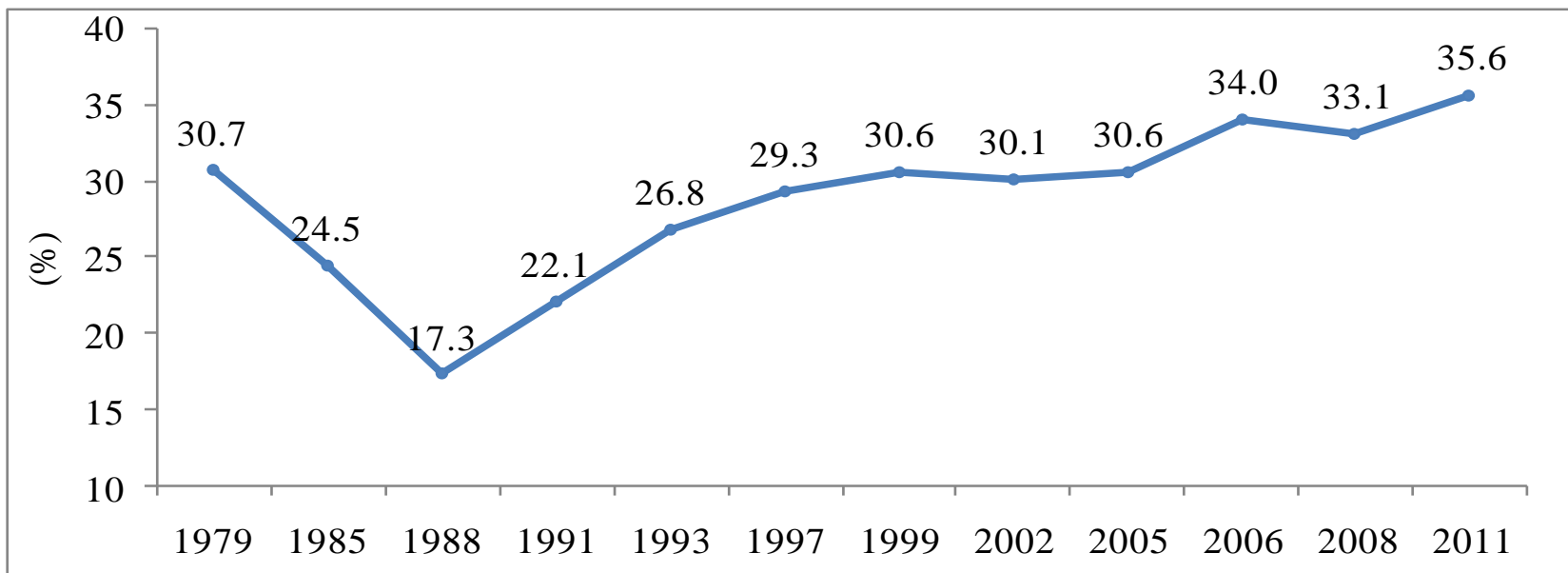


### 3) ACCESS TO FOOD

## Poverty:

There are some disputes regarding recent poverty figures for Pakistan, as lower poverty figures appear in various published official documents.

**Figure Trends in poverty (based on national poverty line) in Pakistan, 1979-2011**

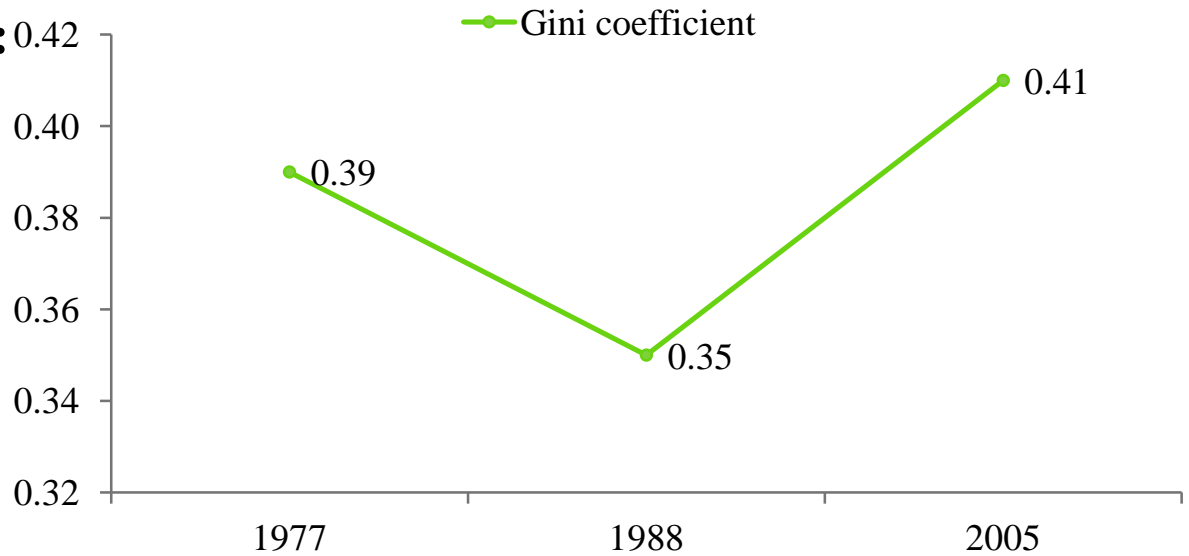


Data from 1979 to 1991 is for 2,550 kcal/person/day. For 1993 to 2011, it is based on 2,350 kcal/person/day official poverty line.

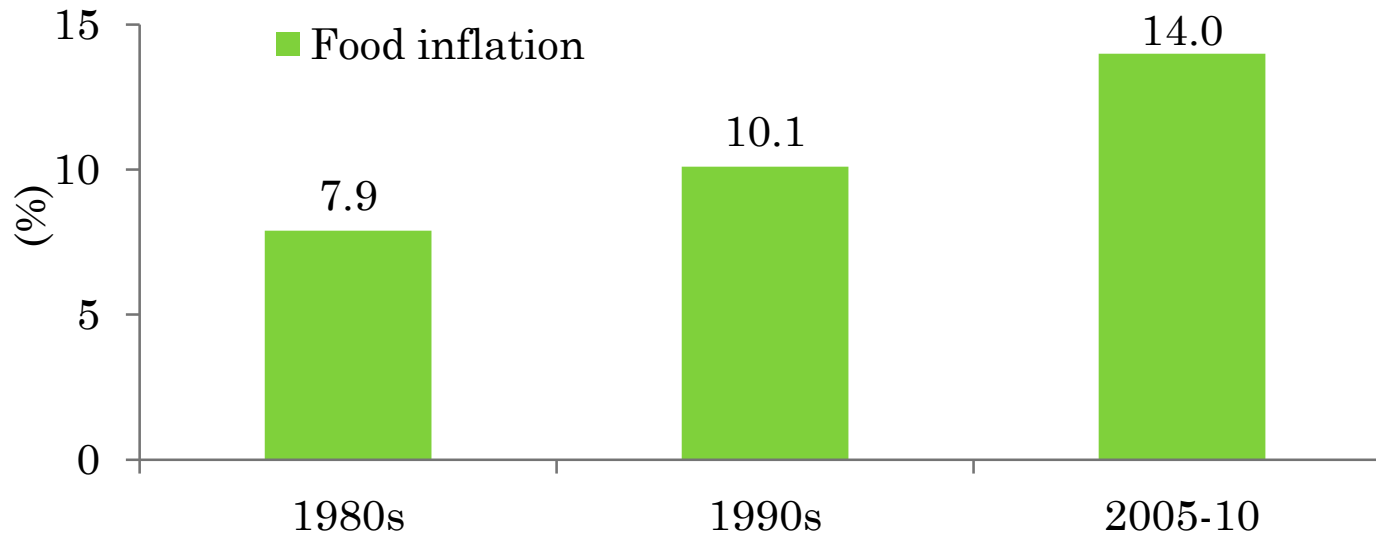
Sources: A R Kamal 2005; Shirazi and Obaidullah 2014; & Sohail Jahangir Malik and Whitney 2014.



## Income inequality:



## Food inflation:



## Quality of jobs:

- GDP growth created sufficient jobs, but quality of work.
- Half of jobs in agr. where real wages ↓.
- In non-farm sector, 70% in informal activi.



## Q2. ROLE OF POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES/ POLICIES FOR ↓ OF HUNGER, POVERTY AND MALNUTRITION?

### *1980s:*

- 6<sup>th</sup> FYP → agricultural & RD, education & health sector (PM's Five Point Programme);
- GDP growth and HD ↑, poverty, hunger and malnutrition↓



## ***1990s:***

- Strategy under the SAP (in 1993): ↑ spending on health, nutrition, education, water & sani & pop welfare
- Rs.420 b spent from Rs.627 b: coverage, quality and utilization of funds.
- (public) development exp ↓ 7 to 4% of GDP (1980s-90s).
- GDP growth ↓; poverty, inequality & malnutrition ↑



## **2000s:**

- Strategy of PRSP. interim-PRSP in 2001, PRSP-I for 2004-06 and PRSP-II for 2008-10 and beyond.
- (2002-12) pro-poor expenses ↑ by 28%. Share of expend on health, education, pop. planning, & water supply & sanit ↓.
- Poverty, hunger and malnutrition ↓ in 1st half (due to inflow of aid and remitt.), but ↑ after.



## *Recently:*

- (2014) the Vision 2025 → address FS ↓ malnutrition by half. Govt's allocations donot show commitment to social sector and HD.
- National Food Security Policy (being formulated)
- Baloch & KPK → Promotion of Breastfeeding and Child Nutrition Acts 2014 & 15: issues of implementation



### **Q3. SOCIAL SAFETY NETS TO IMPROVE THE FOOD SECURITY OF PEOPLE?**

1. Subsidies (food and non-food)
2. Social assistance programmes (BISP, PBM, Zakat)



## 1. *Subsidies*

- **Food** subsidies → ‘Utility Stores’ → in urban areas + Subsidy on flour prices go to millers and traders
- **Fertilizer** subsidies → large farmers
- **Energy** subs: 30% of electricity subs to poorest 40%, 40% to richest 20%

**Table Subsidies in Pakistan, 2002-12**

	Rs. billions	% of GDP
2002	5.5	0.13
2008	54.9	0.5
2011	497.4	2.7
2012	689.0	3.4
2013	556.1	2.5





## 2. *Social assistance programmes*

**BISP:** in 2008 with Rs.34 billion to 3.5 m, provide Rs.1,000 per month to families < Rs.6,000.

**Table BISP's beneficiaries and disbursements**

	Beneficiaries (million)	Cash disbursements (Rs. billion)
2009	1.8	15.8
2015	5.00	90.0

Waseela-e-Sehat, Waseela-e-Taleem, Waseela-e-Haq and Waseela-e-Rozgar → coverage and impact (limited)



## Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal: (in 1992)

- In 2012, it benefited 0.85 m with Rs.1.8 b
- FSP (2000) → (2008) 1.8 m with Rs.6 b → discontinued in 2009 for targeting and BISP.
- *Tawana* Prog → provide cooked food to school-going children → discont. b/c targeting and logistics.



## Zakat: (1980)

- In 2012, it benefited 1.04 m with Rs.3.13 b
- Zaka collections ↓ 0.3 to 0.05-0.08% of GDP (80s & 2004-06)
- Low coverage, lower assistance per capita, leakage of funds & poor selection process



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY IN PAKISTAN

- A high level political commitment → Brazil
- Local level governance system → policy implementation
- RD: small scale farming (Haiti) + non-farm sector
- Governance & coordination among departments (Indonesia)
- Focus of social safety nets → poorest 40%
- Empower women

